

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 23rd March 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at half past two of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Attendance of Hon. Ministers as Members of the Constituent Assembly.

* 48 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) the period or periods during which members of the Constituent Assembly who belong to the Council of Ministers have been away from Madras in connexion with the work of the Constituent Assembly and Committees of that Assembly;

(b) whether this Government was consulted regarding the membership of more than one Legislature before the Adaptation Order was passed removing the ban;

(c) whether the Government have at any time considered the incongruity of members of Council of Ministers being members of the Indian Legislature;

(d) whether, when members of the Council of Ministers move to Delhi to attend the sessions of the Constituent Assembly, they take with them a portion of the Secretariat;

(e) whether the members of the Council of Ministers and their staff draw any allowances during their stay in Delhi and, if so, what they are and the source from which these allowances are drawn;

(f) the extra cost incurred by Provincial Government on account of this frequent exodus to Delhi; and

(g) whether the question of the members of the Council of Ministers resigning their seats in the Constituent Assembly has ever been considered?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier):—(a) & (d) The information is given in the appended statement a.

“(b), (c) & (g) No.

“(e) All the expenditure incurred by the Hon. Ministers are met by the Central Government. The staff draw travelling allowance and daily allowance. This expenditure is met by the Provincial Government.

“(f) Rs. 10,210 from April 1947 to November 1947.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether any directive has been issued to members of the Provincial Legislature who are also members of the Constituent Assembly that they should not attend the Constituent Assembly when the Provincial Legislature is in session? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ This Government do not think that it is necessary to issue such a directive.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Has any other body issued such a directive? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ So far as this Government are aware, we have not received any such directive nor have we issued any.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ May I know whether the Constituent Assembly has issued any instruction to the effect that Ministers should resign their membership of that Assembly? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ This Government have not received any communication from the Constituent Assembly to that effect.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ May I take it that the Hon. Ministers make a valuable contribution to the discussion in that Assembly? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I suppose they do.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Perhaps that is the reason why they do not want to resign.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether the members of the Council of Ministers are attending the sessions of that Assembly? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ No, Sir, not that I know of.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ If it is so, since the members of the Council of Ministers were elected to the Constituent Assembly before they became Ministers, is not this Province being deprived of its representation in the Constituent Assembly to that extent? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ If the Ministers feel that their work as Ministers will permit their attending the sessions of the Constituent Assembly, they will attend. Otherwise, they will not attend. There is no ban on their attending.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Hon. Ministers who are members of the Constituent Assembly will not be attending that Assembly when the Provincial Legislature is in session. Is not this fact enough to show that to that extent, the absence of the Ministers deprive this Province of its representation in the Constituent Assembly? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ The Dominion Legislature is in session now and not the Constituent Assembly.

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Even for attending the Constituent Assembly, it depends upon the exigencies of the situation. As I said, there is no definite ban on their attendance."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member seems to suggest that if the Ministers resign, some others may take their place."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Considering all aspects of the question, is it not advisable for the Ministers now at least to resign from the Constituent Assembly? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I don't think the Government will consider the question either now or in the near future."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are not this Government anxious that this Province should be represented on the Constituent Assembly in adequate numbers? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I can assure the hon. Member that the claims of this Province are well represented and the interests well protected by members who are already there."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If the Hon. Minister concedes that this Province should be adequately represented, will those who cannot attend the session of the Constituent Assembly resign and make room for those who can find time to devote to the work? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have already stated that the claims and interests of this Province are well represented and protected."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" May I know whether the ordinary members of the Constituent Assembly are allowed to take a clerk and a peon with them as is the case with the Ministers? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I am not in a position to say what the ordinary members are allowed or are not allowed."

Administration of the Pudukottah State.

* 49 Q.—DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have taken over the administration of the Pudukottah State;

(b) if so, whether they were consulted by the Government of India before this step was taken; and

(c) whether they had opportunities of considering all aspects of the question and the responsibilities of the Provincial Government in taking over the State?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier) :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

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“(b) No.

“(c) The question does not arise.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ My point was whether this Government were consulted as to the steps that should be taken before the merger of the Pudukottah State with the Madras Province was effected.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ No.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Is it a fact that pressure was brought to bear on the Raja of Pudukottah for the merger? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I have already informed the House that this Government were not consulted. Therefore I am not in a position to answer the question.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether this Government had to obey the instruction issued by the States Ministry to take over the administration of the Pudukottah State without any previous consultation? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ As far as this Government are aware, they were not previously consulted. They were asked to take charge and they took charge. It is open to this Government to make any representation with regard to the many problems that call for solution consequent upon taking over the administration of the State.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the Government are aware that some of those problems may lead to difficulties in the administration of this Province and as such whether the Central Government ought not to have consulted this Government before asking them to take such a serious step? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Yes, Sir. It is also true that it is open to this Government to make representations with regard to the difficulties with which they are faced, and they are just now considering the matter.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Is it within the knowledge of this Government that the administration of the State was so bad that steps had to be taken before taking over the State? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ This Government had no official statement from the State of Pudukottah. But from reports in the press and speeches made, we knew that there was trouble in the State.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the speeches that were delivered by two members of the Indian Civil Service in connexion with the function of taking over the State and whether those speeches were authorized by the Government? ”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ When they took over charge on behalf of the Government, they made the statement that this Government were taking over charge. The Government have received from the officers a communication and also a report.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether they had any instructions from the Government in making those statements? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ This Government asked them to take charge of the administration of the Pudukottah State. In taking over charge, they made no committal statement as such except that they told the people that the Government of Madras on behalf of the Government of India were taking charge of the State.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I respectfully suggest to the Government, particularly the Minister in charge of Services, that the convention that is followed in Great Britain of the civil servants of the Government being seen and not heard be respected in this country also? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ That suggestion shall be considered.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know whether the Government are aware of the opposition to the merger by the members of the Pudukottah State Council as well as the people and, if so, will the Government of Madras be pleased to acquaint the Government of India with the feelings of the people? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I am sure the Government of India know about it.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Is it not a fact that sovereignty rests with the people and not with the ruler? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ This is a question which he must ask the people of the State of Pudukottah.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Having effected the merger, will the Government of Madras acquaint the Government of India with the feelings of the people of the State? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Many questions have been asked on this subject. Hon. Members would have read the speech made by the States Minister and also by Mr. N. V. Gadgil as representing the States Minister. It is the policy of the Government of India, as stated on the floor of the Dominion Legislature, to try to get all viable States under the new Constitution. It is very difficult for these small States to be viable States in the new Union of India. With that end in view, the Government of India, with the consent of the rulers concerned, have taken over some of the States and merged them with the Provinces which are

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contiguous to the States. Questions of the nature which have been addressed in this House ought naturally to be addressed in the Dominion Legislature and not here, because we are not aware of the circumstances which led to these mergers. You are dealing with a subject which is not really within the purview of the Provincial Government."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I do not want to question the policy of the States Ministry at all. I am trying to make this Government realize that it is a responsibility and that therefore they should have an effective voice in deciding the manner of taking over the administration."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Government have their own responsibility. When we were asked to take over a certain State, we took it over and added it to the district which we thought was contiguous to the State as administrative convenience permitted. The whole question of how the future alignment of districts ought to take place will depend upon a fresh examination of the question."

Claims of Mr. V. Munayya Nayudu of Proddatur.

* 50 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have settled the claim of V. Munayya Nayudu of Proddatur who supplied ragi and cholam to the wholesale stores, Cuddapah, at the instance of the Government during 1943-44 by fixing the price of one imperial maund consisting of 43½ measures of ragi according to the G.O. No. 243, Public (War), dated 21st January 1942, Cuddapah Collector's notification, dated 4th June 1944, in Ref. H. 1-3328/44 at Rs. 7-3-9 while admittedly the cost of Nellore putti consisting of 1,120 seers is at Rs. 200;

(b) whether the settlement was forced upon the party;

(c) whether the party claimed additional amount; and

(d) if not, why not?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (a) The claim has been settled by the Government at the rate of Rs. 7-3-9 per imperial maund of ragi which was the rate fixed by the Collector of Nellore and adopted by the Collector of Cuddapah.

" (b) No. The party claimed something more than was due but was unable to convince the Collector of Cuddapah, the Board or the Government that there was any mistake in calculation, but kept on saying that the Government had to pay him something more. He refused to take the sum offered to him. He was therefore told that he should take the amount offered in full and final settlement of his claim. He has done so.

" (c) Yes. His latest representation is under scrutiny of the Government.

" (d) Does not arise."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether the Government have satisfied themselves that $1\frac{1}{2}$ Nellore measures are equal to one Madras measure? ” 2-45
p.m.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I do not know the details, Sir, but I am sure the Government have taken into consideration the rates at which these were brought and the rates prevailing at the time.”

Leave under the Factories Act.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member Mr. Sarma who put this question is not present. If he should come before the question hour is over, he will be permitted to put supplementary questions.”

* 51 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the leave under the Factories Act due in 1946 and 1947 has not yet been granted to some workers of the Public Works Department Workshop, Madras;

(b) whether the concerned trade union has made any representations to the department and the Labour Commissioner about the matter and what action has been taken by them;

(c) whether the concerned union has given notice of strike to get the statutory obligation enforced;

(d) what action has been taken by the department and the Government in the matter; and

(e) whether the Government intend to enforce it?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ (a) The Chief Engineer has been asked to submit a report on a complaint that certain workers employed by contractors in the Public Works Department Workshop have not been given the leave due to them under the Act. His report is awaited.

“(b) Yes. The matter is under consideration.

“(c) Yes. The Public Works Department Workshop Workers Union gave notice in December 1947 stating that if the contract system in the Public Works Department Workshop, Madras, was not abolished admitting the concerned workers retrospectively from July 1946 to all the privileges of permanent departmental workers or alternatively if the privileges such as house rent, leave, holidays with wages, etc., given to the departmental workers were not extended to contract labour before the expiry of fifteen days from the date of re-opening of the workshops after the Christmas holidays, the Union would call out the workers under contractors to strike work without further notice. It was suggested to the President of the Union that he should advise the workers not to precipitate matters as the question was under consideration. The Union has since decided to extend the notice of strike.

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- “(d) The contract system of labour in the Public Works Department Workshop, Madras is now confined to the Foundry, Pattern and Instrument shops, Safe and lock section and the Wooden shutters section and the Carpentry section. The question whether the contract system of labour should be abolished in any of the branches and if not, whether it should be made obligatory for contractors to ensure certain conditions of service to the workers under them is separately under consideration.
- “(e) This will be examined on receipt of certain further particulars called for from the Chief Engineer.

Co-operative building societies in villages.

* 52 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for building houses in villages where the huts are frequently destroyed by fires; and

(b) whether the Government propose to start co-operative building societies in villages?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“(a) No schemes have been drawn up for building houses in villages where huts are frequently destroyed by fire. But a Co-operative House Building Society has been registered near Tenali in Guntur district where the huts of the local weavers were destroyed by fire accidents in 1945.

“(b) Building societies have been started in villages also and no discrimination is shown in the matter of organization of such societies between urban and rural areas, the only consideration being that the requisite conditions for the registration of societies should be forthcoming. The Government have also recently called for proposals for starting housing schemes in rural areas.”

Smuggling of papers of Andhra Paper Mills, Rajahmundry.

* 53 Q.—SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) (1) whether it is a fact that one Mr. G. Sriramulu of Cocanada gave a report to the Collector, East Godavari, on 19th February 1944 through the Commercial Tax Officer, Cocanada, at Rajahmundry Camp, about smuggling of paper of Andhra Paper Mills, Rajahmundry, by country boats in the river Godavari intended to reach Madras for sale in the black-market;

(2) whether it is a fact that an enquiry was made by the Inspector of Civil Supplies on the report of the said G. Sriramulu;

(3) whether the Inspector of Civil Supplies sent a report and, if so, what were his recommendations;

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(4) whether it is a fact that two officers, M. T. Raju, Esq., I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Rajahmundry, and N. S. Arunachalam, Esq., I.C.S., Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, made thorough enquiries and, if so, what were their recommendations;

(5) whether the Government have taken any decision thereon and if they propose to take any action;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the following papers :—

(1) Report of Mr. Gundu Sriramulu, dated 19th February 1944, informing of the smuggling of paper in boats in Godavari river;

(2) report of the Inspector of Civil Supplies, Cocanada, dated 25th February 1944, in connexion with the said investigation submitted to higher authorities and the file of the said Inspector of Civil Supplies referring to the above enquiry;

(3) the reports submitted by M. T. Raju, Esq., I.C.S., and N. S. Arunachalam, Esq., I.C.S., after elaborate enquiries;

(4) G.O. Ms. No. 2640, Development, dated 16th June 1944, appointing the Controller and his file containing the reports submitted by him to the Government from time to time;

(5) report of Deputy Paper Controller, Mir Baquir Ali, Esq., B.A., B.L., in about July 1947; and

(6) report of the Collector, East Godavari, to the Board of Revenue, under his No. 6-4020/45, dated 27th January 1945?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) (1) Sri G. Sriramulu of Cocanada did not give any written report to the Collector of East Godavari. When the Commercial Tax Officer, Cocanada, was camping at Rajahmundry on 19th February 1944, Sri G. Sriramulu gave him the information regarding the alleged smuggling of paper to Madras by the Andhra Paper Mills, Rajahmundry. The Commercial Tax Officer recorded a statement and submitted a report to the Collector of East Godavari.

(2) Yes, Sir.

(3) The Inspector of Civil Supplies sent a report to the Deputy Controller-General of Civil Supplies, Bombay, on 25th February 1944 in which he asked for permission to launch a prosecution against the General Manager of the mills under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance, 1943, or, in the alternative, to transfer the case to the Police for criminal breach of trust and manipulation of accounts.

(4) Yes, Sir. The Sub-Collector, Rajahmundry, recommended that the offence involved was one of falsification of accounts under Section 177, I.P.C., by the General Manager, the Andhra Paper Mills. The recommendation of the Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies was that the Controller of Stationery and Printing might be consulted

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and action taken against the mills for failure to report the actual production and also for contravening the orders prohibiting them to sell paper in quantities exceeding 30 per cent of that produced during the preceding month.

(5) The Government thoroughly investigated the case. As the evidence was not sufficient to proceed against the mills, the matter was dropped. The Government, however, considered that it was necessary to exercise control over the activities of the mills in order to ensure that the paper manufactured by the mills was actually brought to account and equitably distributed and they, accordingly, appointed an Authorized Controller for the purpose in June 1944. The post of the Authorized Controller was continued till 30th September 1947 when it was abolished consequent on the closure of the mills.

“(b) (1) to (6) A copy^a of G.O. Ms. No. 2640, dated 16th June 1944, is placed on the table. The other documents are confidential.”

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—“ May I know if the Government have consulted their Legal Advisers regarding the fact that there was no actionable case against the Andhra Paper Mills? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I find from the reports that the matter was gone into in detail and certain accounts were checked, and the information given by the General Manager was also checked with the records and it was found, after thorough examination, that there was not enough material to launch a prosecution against the company.”

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—“ Sir, my question was, whether the Government consulted their Legal Advisers and whether there was any criminal offence in the present case.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ There was no need to consult the legal officers in the matter, Sir. All facts have to be ascertained before we go to our Legal Adviser in the matter. All facts have been ascertained, but unless we have facts to prove the case, there is no point in consulting our Legal Adviser.”

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—“ May I know if the property was seized from the company? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I have already said, that the property was seized and the Paper Production Commissioner of the Government of India was consulted regarding the action to be taken, but it was reported that under certain rules, as they were then in force no action could be taken.”

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SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" May I know that action was dropped, because the Government of India were not in favour of prosecution? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The Government of Madras and the Government of India were both anxious to do something in the matter, but they could not do anything, because of certain rules that were in force at that time."

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" Sir, since smuggling and blackmarketing are not compoundable offences, why did not the Government take action to consult Legal Advisers in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Blackmarketing can arise only when there is a case of particular production, which has not been properly accounted for. But here, there is only a movement of goods. The mere fact that a particular quantity has moved from one place to another does not constitute blackmarketing, and hence no prosecution could be launched."

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" Sir, where was the property actually seized? My information is that the Sub-Inspector handed it back again from where it was taken. May I know, why was it seized and why was it returned back? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" In several cases, properties might have to be seized, but when there was no case, the property should be returned. That is what might have happened in this case also."

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" Even if the property was handed over under certain provision, why was no prosecution launched against the proprietor of the company? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have no more information than what I have already given, Sir."

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" Have the Government proposed to drop the matter at this stage? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" They have already dropped the matter, Sir."

Western India Match Factory.

* 54 Q.—**SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM** (on behalf of Sri P. R. K. Sarma): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) what the report of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, is in the dispute between the Western India Match Factory Workers' Union and the Western India Match Company; and

(b) whether the report contains any recommendations to the Government for legislation and action against the employer and what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) A copy of the award of the Industrial Tribunal^a is placed on the table of the House.

“(b) The Tribunal has suggested that the Government may amend the rules framed under the Industrial Disputes Act so as to bring managements and labour unions to a sense of responsibility to observe ordinary canons of good behaviour and not use intemperate language. The Government consider that this is not a matter to be dealt with in the rules framed under the Industrial Disputes Act, but that the same purpose can be achieved through Works and Production Committees which are likely to be set up shortly.”

Handmade paper industry.

* 55 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are centres in which handmade paper manufacture is carried on;

(b) whether arrangements exist in these centres to train those who wish to be trained;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, the number of persons under training in each centre;

(d) whether the economics of handmade paper production have been worked out; and if so, what is the cost of production and how it compares with that of machine-made paper;

(e) whether the Government are making use of the paper manufactured in their centres; and

(f) whether the Government have any scheme for the promotion of manufacture of handmade paper?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) Yes, Sir. There are two Handmade Paper Units, one at Viziawada and the other at Bugga, Cuddapah district, run by the Industries and Commerce Department. There is also one Handmade Paper Unit at Tiruvangimalai, Musiri Firka, Trichinopoly district, functioning under the Firka Development Scheme.

“(b) Facilities for training candidates exist in the Paper Units at Viziawada and Tiruvengimalai. No such facilities exist in the Paper Mill at Bugga as it is a small unit.

“(c) Eight students are undergoing training at present in the Handmade Paper Unit at Tiruvangimalai. No student is undergoing training at present in the Paper Mill at Viziawada.

“(d) The economics of handmade paper manufacture depend upon the quality of paper manufactured and the raw material used. The cost of production of paper varies from 8 annas to 14 annas per lb. The cost of handmade paper cannot be compared with that of mill-made paper as machine-made

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articles will mostly be cheaper than handmade ones. Handmade paper is, on account of its durability, generally preferred for insurance policy paper, share certificates, documents, etc.

“(e) Yes, Sir.” The Provincial Firka Development Officer is using the handmade paper manufactured by the Viziawada Unit. It is proposed to make use of the handmade paper manufactured at the departmental units in the offices under the Industries and Commerce Department.

“(f) The Department of Industries and Commerce will render all possible assistance to persons who come forward with any scheme for the promotion of manufacture of handmade paper.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, whether there was a centre at Gazulapalle in the Kurnool district? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ Yes, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, what has happened to it? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ It has been closed, Sir.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Why should not the Government use the handmade paper in all departments and so offer an incentive and encouragement to the industry? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I shall personally request the hon. Member to use it.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether there is any proposal by the Government to combine Bugga and Gazulapalle? ”

THE HON. H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ That is one of the suggestions made by the Development Commissioner after his recent tour, and the Director of Industries is examining it, Sir.”

Payment of workers in the Government hospitals.

* 56 Q.—SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether a majority of the workers of the Government hospitals in the City are paid from what is called “Contingencies”;

(b) whether this category of workers are started on the basic scale of pay of Rs. 12— $\frac{1}{2}$ —15;

(c) whether they are full-time workers;

(d) whether they are paid no interim relief and no house-rent allowance;

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(e) whether they are asked to do work for more than eight hours a day;

(f) whether they are denied the privileges such as Provident Fund and Pension;

(g) whether there is any agitation among this class of workers to abolish this system of payment from contingencies; and

(h) whether there is any proposal before the Government to abolish this system and bring all workers who are now under this head as permanent workers?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“(a) Persons paid from contingencies do not form a majority of workers of the Government hospitals.

“(b) They are paid different scales of pay. The minimum and maximum scales being Rs. 10—15 and Rs. 35—60, respectively.

“(c) Yes.

“(d) Hitherto, they were not paid interim relief and house rent allowance. The Government have passed orders revising the pay and other conditions of service of hospital workers. Under these orders such of those workers who are admitted to the Subordinate or Inferior Services will be eligible for house rent allowance.

“(e) Yes. In order to provide for periodical holidays and sufficient reserve for casual and privilege leave a proposal to constitute leave reserves for certain classes of establishments is under consideration.

“(f) Under the orders referred to in answer to clause (d) such of those workers who are admitted to the Subordinate or Inferior Service will be eligible for the leave, pensionary and other concessions admissible to members of such services.

“(g) There was agitation.

“(h) The Government have had under consideration the question whether the contingent section of the establishment in hospitals need be abolished. They have decided that such of those workers as would be required permanently for the normal work of the department should be made permanent and converted into regular establishment.”

3 p.m. DR. V. K. JOHN :—“In view of the fact that the workers are being paid only Rs. 15 are not the Government setting a very bad example to other employers?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“The scales of pay were now recently revised and in sanctioning the scales we have taken into account the rates of remuneration which the contingent staff were getting throughout the Province and also what would be reasonable for the nature of the work.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“Do the Government think that Rs. 15 a month is reasonable wage for any person working there.”

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ The Government have considered the matter and decided on these scales of pay.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Under the new scheme formulated by the Hon. Minister will most of the workers who are paid from contingencies be absorbed? ”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ The Government have passed an order on the matter on the 25th February 1948 and the orders has two annexures. The posts mentioned in the first annexure have been converted into regular posts and those in the other are only temporary.”

Services of Dr. M. G. Kini.

* 57 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Sri P. R. K. Sarma) :—Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what the positions are that are held by Dr. Kini in the Stanley Hospital and other Government Medical institutions and what his remuneration is for each of the positions; and

(b) whether any complaints have been received that the efficiency of the hospital is affected by his holding more than one position and if so what action has been taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ (a) Dr. M. G. Kini is at present holding the following appointments with the remuneration noted against each :—

<i>Name of appointment.</i>	<i>Pay.</i> RS.
(1) Superintendent and Surgeon, Government Stanley Hospital, Madras.	50 per mensem.
(2) Professor of Surgery, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	750 per mensem.
(3) Surgeon I District, Madras	Nil.

“ (b) The answer is in the negative.

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government do not consider it desirable to distribute the honours instead of smothering too much kindness on the same officer, in the interest of efficiency? ”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ In other teaching hospitals also the posts of Superintendent and Professor are combined, Sir.”

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR 1947-48.

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I want to make a few observations on the supplementary budget and especially

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the omissions therein. I have brought to the notice of the Hon. Home Minister repeatedly the various border incidents that are taking place."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Sir, might I point out to the hon. Gentleman's consideration that the supplementary budget covers expenditure which has been already incurred. There has been no sanction for it and we want it to be ratified. He is talking of border incidents. Provision with regard to that is for the future and that should have been raised on the discussion on budget estimates."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" I did not raise this question, Sir, in the original speech, for I thought that some definite provision might have been included in the supplementary budget. They must provide for adequate defence for these poor villagers who happen to be in the villages bordering upon the Nizam's Dominions . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has heard the Hon. Minister and he is still pursuing the same topic."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" I would appeal to the Hon. Minister that adequate provision . . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" If the hon. Member had read the budget estimates for the current year he would have found that the Police demand has gone up by nearly Rs. 25 lakhs. That is due to the Special Police, etc., which is necessary for safeguarding the interests of the people on the border."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" I do not want to take up much time with regard to this question. I would only say this that the provision may be intensified. The other information I have I would pass on to the Hon. Minister in private. There is nothing more."

" I have one or two other points to refer to. I notice that latterly there is a tendency to abolish some of the girls' schools. This came to my notice after I made my speech on the main budget. I submit that this step to abolish certain girls' schools is shortsighted. I may mention that ten years ago when the Hon. the present Home Minister was the Education Minister . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not want to appear as disturbing the hon. Member. But I should like to say, as the Hon. Minister has pointed out, the hon. Member's remarks must be germane to the supplementary estimate. The proposals to abolish girls' schools hereafter will not come in here. If he wants to supplement his budget speech, I am afraid this is not the time for it."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" I will only say, Sir, that such a step might be avoided for the present, if you strictly hold that I should not make mention of it now."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—“ It is not a question of my holding. The supplementary estimates as placed by the Government are there before the House for discussion. The Government will welcome any suggestions or criticisms on how the expenditure has been incurred already and as to what they should do in future for such expenditure. That would be the proper way. I hope the hon. Member understands.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ I urge, Sir, that adequate provision might be made for the separation of the judiciary from the executive functions. I only say, Sir, that this token grant of Rs. 100 might have been amplified into Rs. 3 or 4 lakhs as contained in the report . . . ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ If I might help the hon. Gentleman, Sir, I should like to say this. I don't know whether he was present when I replied to the debate on the general budget. I said that the scheme as adumbrated now will cost Rs. 3 lakhs and very likely it would be put into effect by the beginning of May or the middle of May. There is no question of applying for further grants by means of a token grant of Rs. 100. This would be enough to meet the expenditure on the scheme when brought into effect.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ I am glad, Sir, I have got the assurance from the Hon. Minister.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Mr. President, Sir, as you are aware more than once I have represented that the Government should present supplementary demands both in respect of items of demands already voted in the budget and new services before the expenditure is incurred. It is not fair to the Legislature to seek approval after incurring the expenditure. My suggestion, I find, remains unheeded. Of course, we have no power to vote down the demands. Sir, supplementary demands were presented in September and in December and again now on the same old basis after incurring the expenditure. If we take the amounts involved in this budget—the unauthorised expenditure as I would like to call it they come to crores. Though in the Budget Memorandum given to us, the Hon. the Finance Minister has given the figure of expenditure on Revenue Account as Rs. 7,57,00,000, there are a large number of items inside it, against each demand for which only a sum of Rs. 100 has been provided. If the actual amount that is likely to be spent on each item for which there is a token demand of Rs. 100 is put down I am sure this expenditure on Revenue Account would go up by many crores. This supplementary estimate relates to schemes sanctioned after the supplementary estimate was submitted to the Legislature in December 1947 and it covers a period, I take it, from December 1947 to 31st March 1948. May I know, Sir, what was the urgency to incur such huge amounts of expenditure, within these three months, which he did not anticipate during the first nine months? Could he not have

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provided for them in the Budget of 1948-49 and taken up the many schemes which cost some crores in the new budget instead of presenting them in a supplementary budget? The reason why I point this out is this. Though the Hon. Minister for Finance has provided large amounts, I may tell him, and I am sure he will agree with me, though not openly, that much of these amounts may not be spent at all. Why should amounts be provided for, what I would call in the financial parlance, overestimated expenditure, when the expenditure is not going to be incurred. I am sure he must have been worried by his Hon. Colleagues to make provision for these amounts; but shrewd as he is he should have told them that it would not be possible for them to spend all the amounts that they were demanding for items of expenditure that they had programmed. Though it has been the procedure—this method of getting approval for new services which may involve an expenditure covering some lakhs by providing for a token amount of Rs. 100—it is but fair to the Legislature that some indication of the ultimate cost involved in respect of the new services should be given. I must in fairness say that for certain items the amount has been indicated in the notes given in the budget. But he could have put the amount needed by him, here instead of putting Rs. 100. That would have given us a correct idea of the real expenditure that is to be incurred before the 31st March 1948.

“I am a member of a committee, Sir, whose members have been characterised as men of ‘doubtful qualities,’ I mean the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee. I may be a person of doubtful qualities, Sir, and I do not mind it. But I must say that those who are associated with me in that Committee are certainly not men of doubtful qualities. That apart, that Committee is engaged in suggesting some retrenchment measures as also the reorganization in respect of certain departments of Government.

“What I am surprised at is, as I said during the debate on the Budget for 1948-49 in respect of those services which are still under examination, or which have been examined, further sanction has been given to the personnel. I do not want to take much time pointing out to the Hon. Minister these things, because he will himself be able to find out, when the final recommendations of the committee come, how in respect of the very departments in which perhaps retrenchment is possible an increase in expenditure on personnel has been provided even during this year.

“Now I come to the items in the Budget. First of all I take Forests. I must confess that the information given by the Hon. Minister in charge of Forests . . .”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“Just a minute. May I know how many Members wish to speak. I think the House must rise at 5.”

Messrs. N. Ranga Reddi and D. Manjappa Hegde rose in their seats and said they wanted to speak.

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I am willing to sit down whenever you pull me up."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not want to pull you up. I just wanted to know how many Members wished to speak."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" A sum of Rs. 10 lakhs has been provided for advance felling operations in South Coimbatore and Wynaad Divisions. I would like to know what is the agency that will be employed by Government for these felling operations. Is it to be given on contract or is it to be carried out departmentally? Do the Government possess the necessary personnel to carry out these felling operations? Then, Sir, I was surprised to find that about Rs. 50,000 is provided for the purchase of wire netting for fencing the casuarina plantations. Of course the Minister in charge of Forests is also in charge of Agriculture, and the Department of Agriculture is very fond of what they call the ideal fence, which is barbed wire fencing. I doubt very much whether such a large amount should be spent on this ideal fencing, when the whole expenditure involved is Rs. 92,800 recurring and Rs. 16,500 non-recurring."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Are you sure that it is spent on ideal fencing? "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Government have sanctioned the purchase of wire netting for fencing the casuarina plantations at a cost of Rs. 50,000."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It may not be ideal after all."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In the Department of Agriculture, they call it ideal fencing. Then, Sir, under item (iii) they are purchasing road rollers and also they are carrying out improvements to the forest roads. I would like to know what is the agency that is going to be employed, and I would also like to know—I do not know the geographical position—whether this Mannarghat-Attapady Road is connected with the Silent Valley forests. Incidentally, I would like to know whether the lease of the Silent Valley forests still continues.

" Then, Sir, I come to Motor Vehicles Acts. I am one of those who, though not affected in any way by the working of the Motor Vehicles Acts, feel that the present system of Regional Transport Authority is quite out of date. The sooner we revert to the District Traffic Board, the better it would be. I would like the Hon. Minister to consider whether in 1948-49 it would not be possible for him to go back to the old District Traffic Boards."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" I may say for the information of the hon. Member that already District Traffic Boards are formed and are working."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" The Regional Transport Authority, I mean. I will only leave the suggestion for the consideration of the Hon. Minister. I do not want to take up

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much time, as I feel this subject has already been brought to the notice of the Government by the other House by way of various cut motions moved in the course of the discussion of the Budget Demands.

"Then, Sir, I come to Grant IX—Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff. You may remember, Sir, that I tabled a question in this House asking the Government to let us know how the privileges of the officers under the Government have been affected after August 15, 1947. The Hon. the Leader of the House replying on behalf of the Premier was not able to assist me in any manner. But I find, Sir, a sentence here which gives the clue, as it were. Under item (i), it is said 'Consequent on the Adaptation of the Government of India Act, 1935,' issued in the 'India (Provisional Constitution) Order, 1947, most of the cases that normally used to be circulated to His Excellency the Governor previously have to be seen by the Hon. the Premier.' May I know, Sir, from the Government what those cases are? Are they cases relating to discipline and punishment of the officers of the Provincial Government? Does the privilege of officers, who were sending up memorials to His Excellency the Governor for reconsidering the orders of the Government, still continue? What do they mean when they say that most of the cases have to be seen by the Hon. Premier? It means evidently that the Hon. Premier takes the place of His Excellency the Governor after the Adaptation Act was passed. I want to know what are those cases. Then only we can understand why the Hon. Premier requires a Principal Private Secretary. We would like to know what those cases are and whether they affect the privileges of the services.

"Then, Sir, I come to dearness allowance. It is a subject

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Very dear to you."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Yes, Sir. I have spoken often in this House about adequate dearness allowance to public servants. The increase given from 1st January 1948 is not at all commensurate with the rise in the cost of living. Originally they were getting Rs. 16. Now those who are drawing a salary below Rs. 20 will get Rs. 18 (an increase of Rs. 2) and those who are getting a salary of Rs. 20 and above but below Rs. 50 will get an increase of Rs. 3 in dearness allowance, and so on. The scale of dearness allowance is not at all commensurate with the increase in the cost of living. Of course my Hon. Friend the Minister for Finance will not agree and will not accept the view that I may put forward in regard to the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission. That Commission suggested certain scientific methods by which dearness allowances should be fixed. Evidently the Madras Government are not prepared to accept the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission. But curiously enough, where it suits them, the Madras Government accept the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission. In regard to

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officers drawing salaries above Rs. 400 they accepted the Central Pay Commission's recommendations—not because they considered them to be scientific, but because it suited their purpose. Is it fair that these low paid Government employees, who cannot strike work because they are helpless and because they have no other means of redress, should be treated in this manner? Sir, they cannot even mould the policy of the Government to the extent officers getting Rs. 400 and above can do. I appeal to the Hon. Minister for Finance to reconsider the matter. I know the financial implications of the suggestion I am making. That is accepted. But they have to live, and they must be enabled to live so that they may discharge their duties satisfactorily. The Hon. the Home Minister, presiding over a meeting of the Secretariat Association the other day, conceded that in many countries public servants are allowed to organize themselves into trade unions. He at the same time felt that in our country it was not necessary. May I in this connexion draw the attention of Government to the fact that in the Province of Bombay, recently they have constituted Federations of Joint Councils as they call them, on the lines of the Works Councils that are proposed for industrial establishments. The President of this Council will be the Chief Secretary where the Secretariat is concerned, and a representative of the staff sits on it. I have got a copy of the Constitution with me, and I shall pass it on to the Hon. Finance Minister afterwards. That enables, Sir, the Government, through the representations of the Chief Secretary to understand the difficulties of the staff working in the Secretariat. Some Joint Councils are proposed for districts also. I would commend the example of Bombay to the Madras Government so that they may be always aware of the difficulties under which their staff work.

“Now, I come to pensioners. I do not know why the Hon. Finance Minister, of all persons, hit the pensioners, especially those drawing Rs. 100 and less. Their pensions have been reduced. For what purpose? Is it in order to increase the dearness allowance of the non-gazetted employees in service? Is it fair . . .”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“Sir, it is not correct, Sir. Only the extra that has been given is being cancelled.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“I have got both the orders with me, Sir. Pensioners drawing less than Rs. 40 were getting Rs. 8 dearness allowance. I am only saying that you are cutting down from 1st January 1948 what you have been giving from 1st January 1947 though the cost of living has not gone down to the extent to deserve such a cut. That is all what I am representing. Is it fair that these servants of Government, with a scanty pension (who have rendered loyal and devoted service to Government), should be treated in their old age in the manner the Hon. Finance Minister wants? After all, it is only a temporary allowance. It is not going to be permanent. As soon as you remove it in the case of men in service, you are going to remove

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that in the case of pensioners also. Why should not the same scale which these pensioners were enjoying on 1st January 1947 be continued? They have no means of redress. I know, Sir, that the Hon. the Finance Minister has received many memorials. But who is there in the Secretariat interested in pensioners? The Secretariat staff are interested in getting their own grievances redressed. There is no one to put forward the case of pensioners. Unless the Finance Minister opens his eyes and sees that these unfortunate peons, especially peons who have retired, get Rs. 4."

3-30
p.m.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Can they strike? "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I was about to say they cannot use that instrument. They can strike only at the risk of dying a death of starvation. That is the only method, I may say, by which they can move the hearts of those on the Treasury Bench. Sir, I will leave it at that, because I do not want to stress that point. I am sure the Hon. the Minister himself knows it. But, I know, Sir, the argument is going to be used that they are only carrying out the instructions of the Government of India."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Not the instructions of the Retrenchment Committee? " (Laughter.)

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" We only want the retrenchment of personnel that are not necessary and we do not want any retrenchment in the dearness allowance.

" Then, Sir, I want to refer to the tendency on the part of the Government to create a post of a personal assistant immediately a new office is created. Whenever a Special Officer is appointed, immediately a Personal Assistant is also appointed. The one main reason is that the Special Officer may go out on tour and therefore, there must be a Personal Assistant to look after his duties. There are Personal Assistants for Collectors and other officers. Sir, the Government do not seem to have any compunction in appointing these Personal Assistants, but when it comes to the question of increasing the dearness allowance, all the arguments about financial considerations are used. I will only leave it at that.

" Then, Sir, I come to the Legislative Bodies. As you are aware, Sir, the Department of Legislature is treated as a vacation department. I do not know why."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Not now."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I know it is being treated. Government have not passed final orders. I do not know why this department should be treated as a vacation department. If you look at the continuous sittings we have, surely, they cannot be treated as a vacation department. They have got enough work to prepare themselves for the coming session. When that is so, why should the department be treated as a vacation department?

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“ Sir, you know, in this House, more than once, I have represented the case of reporters. Our Council reporters are paid so low that they are anxious to get away to other Provinces as soon as some inducement comes. Why should you lose experienced reporters, Sir? Their reporting, whatever some hon. Members in this House or the other House may say, is the best reporting in India. Sir, once they went out of this Province, they have won laurels. Why should Government treat these reporters in this Province in this manner? Therefore, Sir, Government should pay some consideration to them by paying them adequately. We ask them to work continuously for a number of hours and should not the Government treat these reporters who are serving them honestly, in a better manner than they are doing? Sir, I am not briefed to speak for the reporters, but I know the lot of reporters in any office and more so in the Legislature.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ I suggest Ministers’ speeches may not be reported correctly? ” (Laughter.)

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, I now come to the Firka Development grant. All that I can say is that I wish the Firka Development every success but what I am concerned is that the amounts placed at the disposal of these various firkas should be properly utilized. It is for the Government to see that the amounts are properly spent. I wish the amounts which the Government are so generously placing at the disposal of these officers may be properly utilized and that village communications, water-supply and other amenities should be provided to the villagers, at least in the firkas that have been taken for intensive development.

“ Then, Sir, I come to my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Education. I am very glad, Sir, that my Hon. Friend is interested in the Numismatic societies. I only want him, Sir, to give every kind of assistance to these Numismatic societies. I do not grudge his giving the Numismatic Society of India, Bombay, the annual grant of Rs. 300. But, my point is that similar societies exist in our own Province, and the Hon. Minister could extend the same privilege to them. If he gives an annual grant of Rs. 300 to the Bombay Society, let him give Rs. 500 to the societies here, because there are a number of associations of that kind here. If in the name of maintaining a high school of Oriental Research, this ought to be maintained, why should not the Hon. the Minister assist our own men in making their high schools more successful.

“ Then, Sir, I find a curious item. I am sure the Hon. the Minister for Education will say whether he has any responsibility in supporting the lectureship in Indian History and Civilization endowed in the Lucknow University. Why not the Hon. Minister provide a lectureship in any one of our three Universities? Why should he go and help a University which has no use for pupils belonging to this Province? Should he not encourage Dravidian culture by appointing a man for lectureship in Dravidian history and Dravidian civilization because he is a protagonist

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of Dravidian culture. Sir, I want the young men of our Province to be benefited by any expenditure that is incurred on education. No doubt, the amount may be small and it may be given. But, we would like to suggest that such a lectureship should be instituted in this Province also.

“ Then, Sir, my Hon. Friend is very much interested in the bifurcation of the course of study. My views on this subject are well-known. But, recently, some syllabuses have been published in the Gazette. You will see that according to the bifurcated course, the Managerial course or the Clerkship course begins at the fourth form, and the student is taught to draft letters, is taught how to type, and how to take shorthand script at the fourth form stage. Sir, we know how well-educated our young men are at the stage of fourth form? But, that is going to happen because a large amount is budgetted and I only wish that it does yield results worth the name. I could have very well understood if the Hon. Minister wanted to start Vocational course of the kind where the hand is used at the fourth form stage so that when they pass out of the sixth form they may be in a position and be able to follow some technical course or go to earn their livelihood. But, here, Sir, the boy is trained to be a quill-driver from the fourth form. The Hon. the Minister himself knows and I am sure, such a boy will not be able even to decipher the kind of notes written in the Secretariat to which the best talents are recruited. I ask, Sir, whether such persons who take up this course in the fourth form will be able to do that kind of work? Does the Hon. the Minister think that these dwarfs will be able to do the work which is done by the giants?

“ Then, Sir, there are one or two things more which I want to refer. Sir, there is some criticism against my Hon. Friend about the preparation of text-books. I am sure, the Hon. the Minister wants to have text-books written in the languages. Some of us have felt that it would be desirable that the text-books such as those which are published by the University for the S.S.L.C. course, should also be published for all classes by the Government or by any authorized agent, subject to the control of Government, instead of allowing each school in each district board or municipality to choose its own text-book. Therefore, Sir, I think what the Hon. Minister has done is a move in the right direction.

“ Then, Sir, I come to agriculture. On page 28, you will find that my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Agriculture, once again wants to buy a large number of agricultural machinery. You may remember, Sir, that during last March, I raised a question about Thompson's Disposals. Only the other day, a list of purchases of agricultural machinery made by the Government was given but I understand that they are from some other source. Sir, a very large number of agricultural machinery have been purchased in addition to the list furnished last. What I am asking is this. People do not know where this machinery is available. Are you bringing to the notice of the people where this machinery is available and where you invest these large amounts and whether that

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machinery is being properly utilized? That is my point. If people are utilizing the machinery already purchased, I do not mind the Government investing the amounts so that the 'Grow More Food' Campaign may be accelerated. But, I feel, Sir, that we are indulging in all these without proper use of the materials which we are purchasing. Sir, the Thompson's Disposals had about Rs. 25 lakhs worth of tractors, jeeps and all kinds of things. A long list of these articles purchased from them has been given. But, where are they being used? Are they being used by the ryots? In which areas, are they being used? Are they useful? Is there demand for such machinery? What kind of machinery is in greater demand? What sort of machinery we should get for use in agriculture? We do not know all these but yet, we are again purchasing one hundred tractors, at a cost of Rs. 8,94,000 recurring and Rs. 25,10,000 non-recurring. The estimated expenditure in 1947-48 is Rs. 19 lakhs. Sir, this is a huge amount. I ask my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Agriculture, to look into this matter and see from the time of the Thompson's Disposal up to date, how much machinery have been purchased. Let him also examine the large number of personnel that has to be employed to maintain this machinery. I do not mind that the personnel is maintained if the machinery is being properly utilized for the benefit of the ryots. But, I would like him to feel himself satisfied about it. It does not matter if it involves the purchase of pipes and piping for supply to the ryot to assist him in the 'Grow More Food' Campaign. When we buy the pipes the ryots in far off Tuticorin or Tinnevely should be able to get this very easily. There should not be mal-distribution of the purchases made. The machinery should be properly located in various places, so that the ryots can easily secure them. It will be worthwhile if the Hon. the Minister is to appoint a departmental committee to go into this matter, so that better use may be made of this machinery and if necessary, more can be purchased, if the ryots are benefited on that account.

"Sir, my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Industries, has not done as much as I expected for industrial education in my district. Sir, every district is served by a Polytechnic and only our district is suffering for want of a Polytechnic."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"May I take it that the hon. Member will finish at 3-45 p.m.?"

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I will finish at 3-50, Sir. I would like the Hon. Minister to examine the possibility of starting a Polytechnic in our district also. I would like the Hon. the Minister to follow the good example of Bombay in starting an industrial school at least one for every two districts. For instance, take our Ceded districts, the Rayalaseema. There is only one industrial school. Why should there not be one school at least for every two districts? Ultimately, there may be one for each district. The need for this industrial education is growing more and more. Incidentally, I may draw the attention of my

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hon. Friend, the Minister for Industries to the Andhradjathiyakalasala at Masulipatam which had a chequered career. In what stage it is, God only knows. Sir, I remember, when we were young, on Deepavali days and on the New Year days, we used to collect funds for the sake of this Andhradjathiyakalasala, which has established certain ideas on technical education. This Andhradjathiyakalasala, Sir, was transferred to the Municipality of Masulipatam. Whether the municipality is managing it satisfactorily or not, I do not know. Sir, whatever the description of the school or its object may be, this industrial school has been in existence for a long time. But, now the school is languishing for want of support either by the public or the Government. Some serious efforts are being made by the people of the locality to revive the school. I would like the Government to take this school in hand and to re-establish and restart it.

3-45
p.m.

“ Sir, I must keep my word and finish at 10 minutes to four. My Hon. Friend, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, has started well in transferring the minor irrigation works to the Public Works Department. May I remind him, Sir, that this recommendation was made long ago in 1939 by the Famine Code Revision Committee in respect of the Ceded districts? When the Committee went round the districts they found that the minor irrigation works were utterly neglected and the Collectors pleaded their inability to cope with the work. At that time, the Committee which was presided over by a Member of the Board of Revenue unanimously recommended that minor irrigation works in the Ceded districts should be transferred to the Public Works Department. I am glad my hon. Friend has broken the ice. I would like him to apply this principle not only to the district of Chingleput but also to the unfortunate famine-stricken districts. It is only an extension of the principle, which I am glad he has accepted.

“ Sir, I now come to State Trading Schemes. I find that a large amount has been spent on the purchase of Cuban sugar and also silk filature from Japan. The amount involved in the purchase of Cuban sugar is about Rs. 74,52,800. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister for Food whether this quantity of 7,400 tons of Cuban sugar was thrust on this Government by the Government of India or whether this Government applied for sugar of that kind, how the cost works out and what is the price charged to the consumer. Sir, I find again that they have used Messrs. Parry & Co., as distributing agents. Did they take steps to obtain tenders from other distributing agents? Why did they think of only one company for the purpose of distributing the sugar throughout the Presidency?

“ Then Sir, I come to silk filature. The total cost for the initial purchase of the silk including the incidental expenditure has been estimated to be about Rs. 30 lakhs. Sir, how is this silk utilized? Is it being spun at the Kollegal factory? What is the agency employed by the Government to sell the finished products? I would like to know, Sir, whether this quantity of silk was thrust

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on this Government by the Government of India or whether they voluntarily purchased it. I would like to know, what are the economics of the silk filature business and the Cuban sugar business. I would like the Hon. Minister for Finance to tell us how it works, whether we get any profit or loss, whether the articles purchased have been consumed in this Province, or whether because there was no market, we had to export them outside. With these few remarks, Sir, I would like to keep my word to finish at ten minutes to four and resume my seat."

SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI :—" Sir, I find there is a provision of Rs. 78,22,000 for sinking of wells for the Grow More Food schemes. This is a well-conceived scheme and the grants that are being given for sinking wells have been a great inducement, but the results are not as much as expected. There is a great delay in the disbursal of grants. By the time the money is received by the villagers they find that they have spent in travelling and other expenses nearly one-third of the grant. Also the materials that are required by them are not easily obtainable. If proper results are to be obtained from this scheme, the Government should undertake the sinking of these wells themselves. For sinking these wells, it is not necessary to have experts or technical people. Plenty of labour is available in the villages and they can be employed. Only the supervision has to be done by the Government officers . . . "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does any other Hon. Minister wish to reply in addition to the Hon. the Finance Minister? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It all depends on the points raised, Sir."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I should like to speak for five minutes, Sir."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I should like to speak for five minutes, Sir."

SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI :—" Sir, with regard to jails, I submit that they should be made self-sufficient institutions. The Government should get as much as they spend on jails. Dairy farms and vegetable gardens can be established in these jails. Milk and vegetables can be sold to the people in the towns near the jails. We can have workshops also in these jails. The prisoners also may be given some training so that when they leave the jails they would be in a position to take up remunerative work outside. Many of us who are here were in jails for long periods and we know how these jails can be reformed and how they can be made paying institutions.

" Sir, I find that basic schools and basic training schools are being started in various places. The Government should give every kind of encouragement to private agencies to come forward and start these schools. Then the expenditure of the Government can be minimized and the number of schools also increased.

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" Sir, the polytechnics that have been started are doing very good work. A number of technicians have been trained and they should be provided with work.

" Sir, I find that iron, coal and coke are in short supply. Even the existing small industries are not able to work on account of want of these materials. The Provincial Government should address the Central Government and ask for more quotas of these materials. Not only that, they should also request the Central Government to import large quantities of iron because it is greatly required not only for the existing industries but also for the industries that are to be started. I hope the Government will pay sufficient attention to these and see that adequate supplies of iron are made to these various industries in the Province."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Sir, on page 37 of the Supplementary statement of Expenditure, I find that provision is made for three bridges in Malabar and it is stated that they are required urgently for the maintenance of Law and Order in Chirakkal taluk in Malabar district. It is also stated that these roads will be taken up for execution by the District Board on the basis of the full grant from Provincial Funds.

" Sir, so far as Cuddapah district is concerned, the District Magistrate of Cuddapah has written to the Government that a bridge over the Pennar in Cuddapah is absolutely necessary. The benefit of this river goes to Nellore while all the inconvenience is suffered by the people of our district. The Hon. the Finance Minister and the Hon. the Minister for Industries toured in the district. They found it very inconvenient and uncomfortable. It was not possible for them to tour all the parts. What happens is this. For want of a good bridge, it is not possible to travel from one part of the district to another when the river is in floods. A bridge over the river here is quite necessary in the interests of Law and Order. The principle applied to the bridges in Malabar should be applied to the bridge over the Pennar in Cuddapah. This river prevents access to the headquarters from the various towns during the rainy season. If there is any trouble or disturbance in any of the taluks it is not possible to move the Reserve Police from the district headquarters where the Reserve Police is stationed. I know the District Magistrate of Cuddapah has recommended a number of times that a bridge over the Pennar is necessary in the interests of Law and Order. I also know that this recommendation has been turned down on the ground that the river is unfordable only for a few days in the year. I submit, Sir, that the test that is ordinarily applied in the case of other bridges should not be applied in the case of a bridge which is required in the interests of Law and Order.

4 p.m. " The next point I would like to submit is with regard to the firka development scheme. In connexion with this scheme, provision has also been made for rural water-supply. I may submit that

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according to the instructions given by the Government to the Collector, unless an equal amount of contribution either in money or labour or material comes from the villagers, no thought will be given to rural water-supply schemes in villages. From the very beginning my contention has been that, so far as rural water-supply schemes are concerned, no contribution ought to be expected from the villagers. It must be the responsibility of the Government to provide for water-supply schemes. As a member of the Rural Water-supply and Drainage Schemes Committee, I have emphasized this point. Therefore I beg to submit that this condition about contribution from the villagers, should be deleted.

"The Government has selected a number of firkas in the Presidency for development. In doing so, they must select such firkas where there is already supply of electric power. The Government should extend supply of electric power to villages which are close to the source of supply. Unfortunately in some places electric supply has failed and it is not working properly. In such cases the Government should take steps to improve supply. I wish to mention particularly Proddatur. It is one of the places which have been selected for rural development work. It is in Cuddapah district. Supply of electric power to that place is very bad. It has been so for the last 1½ years. If the Government is very keen on developing the schemes, it must first of all rectify the mistakes that are existing and improve the supply. I have nothing more to add."

SRI MOTHAY NARAYANA RAO:—“అభ్యుదయ, మనదేశమింకను ద్వితీయ ప్రపంచ సంగ్రామమువలన ఏర్పడిన ఔషధ పరిస్థితులనుంచి బయటపడలేదు. ఇది ఇట్లుండగా తృతీయ ప్రపంచ మహాసంగ్రామము ఎప్పుడు వస్తుందో అనే భయముకూడా మనకు గలుగుతోంది. మొన్న జరిగిన యుద్ధం మూలంగా మనకు కలిగిన అపార కష్ట నష్టాలను మనమింకా మరుచులేదు. ఇంతలోనే తిరిగి మరొక ప్రపంచ యుద్ధం వచ్చి నట్లైతే మన స్థితి ఇంకా ఎంత విషమిస్తుందో అని మన మందరము భయపడక తప్పదు. ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో దేశంలో ఉండే యువకులందరను సైన్య శిక్షణ (military training) ను ఇచ్చి వారిని యుద్ధ కార్యక్రమాలకు తరిగివేయ చేయమని నాయొక్క ఉద్దేశముకాదు.

“అహార విషయంలో మన రాష్ట్రంలో కొరత ఏర్పడి ఉన్నదని మనకందరకు తెలిసిన విషయమే. అన్ని విషయములకన్న ముఖ్యమైనటువంటిది అహార సమస్య కనుక మనయొక్క యావత్తు సైక్లిని ప్రభుత్వమువారు దానిమీద కేంద్రీకరింప వేసి అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తికి తమ శక్తి వంచనలేకుండా తోడ్పడతారని విశ్వసిస్తున్నాను.

“అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తికిగాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు రామచంద్రాసాగరం, సంగమేశ్వరం మొదలగు పెద్ద పెద్ద ప్రాజెక్టులను నిర్మించుటకుగాను పరిశీలనలు చేయిస్తునట్లు చెబు తున్నారు. యీ పెద్ద Project ల నిర్మాణానికి ప్రయత్నముచేయు చిన్న చిన్న ప్రాజెక్టులనుకూడ వెంటనే అమలు జరిపిస్తే కొద్ది డబ్బు ఖర్చులోనే అచిర కాలంలో ఫలితములు కనుపించును. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు వారియొక్క శక్తిని ఈ చిన్న ప్రాజెక్టుల విషయంలో కేంద్రీకరింపవలసినదిగా కోరుచున్నాను.

[Sri Mothay Narayana Rao] [23rd March 1948]

“ఈనాడు మన రాష్ట్రంలోని మెట్ట ప్రాంతాలలో వ్యవసాయము చాలావరకు నూతులలోనుంచి నీటిని తీసుకొని తద్వారా కొనసాగించబడుతోంది. ఈ నీటిని రైతులు అతి శ్రమకోర్చి పరువుల సహాయంతో మోటలద్వారా పైకి తీసుకొనివచ్చి వ్యవసాయం చేస్తున్నారు. ఈ నిధానంవలన రైతు చాలా కష్టపడవలసి వస్తోంది. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఇటువంటి రైతులకు electricity సరఫరా చేసి దాని సహాయంతో నీటిని పైకి తీసుకొనివచ్చి వ్యవసాయం చేయునట్లుగా ఏర్పాటు చేయవలసిన దని నా అభిప్రాయము. ఈ విధంగా రైతునును ప్రోత్సహిస్తేగాని అధికాహారోత్పత్తి సక్రమంగా జరుగదు.

“ఈనాడు రైతులకు వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లు దొరకటం చాలా కష్టంగా ఉన్నది. ఆఖరకు ఒక చిన్న పాకీ కావాలన్నా, గునప కావాలన్నా, బండి పట్టాలు కావాలన్నా, నాగలికర్రు కావాలన్నా black market లోకాని దొరకని దుర్భర పరిస్థితులు ఏర్పడి ఉన్నాయి. పట్టణాలలో పెద్ద పెద్ద factory లు కట్టటానికి, పెద్ద పెద్ద భవనాలు కట్టటానికి ఇనుము దొరుకుతోంది కాని, రైతుకు అత్యవసరమైన నాగలికర్రకు ఇనుము దొరకక, దొంగ మార్కెటులో హెచ్చుధరలెచ్చి దానిని కొనుక్కోనలేక చాలా బాధలు పడుతున్నారు. కనుక రైతుకు కావలసిన వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లను అతనికి సక్రమమైన ధరలకు దొరుకునట్లు చూడవలసిన బాధ్యత ప్రభుత్వమువారివైన ఉన్నదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“అంతేకాకుండా, అధికాహారోత్పత్తికిగాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు, భూదేవి తన గర్భ మందు, రక్తనాళములందు ధరించిన అపారమైనటువంటి నీటిని బోరింగు నెట్టుల సహాయంతో పైకి తెప్పించి సదాధరంగా వ్యవసాయం కొనసాగించుటకుగాను రైతులకు సహాయపడుట చాలా అవసరము. ఈనాడు బోరింగు నెట్టు సహాయంతో వ్యవసాయం చేస్తున్న రైతులకు పైపులు దొరకక చాలా బాధపడుతున్నారు. ప్రభుత్వంవారు వారికి అవసరమగు పైపులను supply చేయలేని విపరీత పరిస్థితులలో ఉన్నది.

“ఈ సందర్భంలో ఒక చిన్న విషయం మనవిచేస్తాను. ఈ మధ్య కాకినాడలోని ఒక మిత్రుడు గవర్నమెంటువారు రైతులకు ఇచ్చే ధరకన్న ఒక అడుగు పైపుకు ఆ. 4 లు తక్కువకు కలకత్తానుంచి తెప్పించి supply చేస్తానని, అందుకు ఆయనకు పెర్మిషన్ (permission) ఇప్పించవలసినదని అగ్రికల్చరల్ డిమాన్డ్ స్ట్రేటరు గారికి, అగ్రికల్చరల్ డెవలప్ మెంటు గారికి వ్రాసినారు. అందుకు వారివద్దనుంచి మీరు ఎల్లా supply చేస్తారు, ఎవరిద్వారా కొంటున్నారు, ఇక్కడకు ఎట్లా తీసుకొనివస్తారు అనే విమర్శలేతప్ప, ఆయనకు ఈ అవకాశమిచ్చి రైతులకు అత్యవసరమైనటువంటి పైపులు దొరకే ఏర్పాటులు ఏమీ చేయబడలేదు. ఇటువంటి విధానాలవలన అధికాహారోత్పత్తి జరుగును. ప్రభుత్వమువారి అధికాహారోత్పత్తి ప్రచారము నిష్ప్రయోజనము. ఒక ప్రైవేటు వర్తకుడు ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఇచ్చే ధరకన్న అడుగుకు ఆ. 4 లు తక్కువకు ఇస్తానని అంటుంటే అతనికి అవకాశము ఇవ్వకపోవటం ప్రభుత్వ విధానమేమో నాకేమీ అర్థంకావటంలేదు. ఆ వర్తకుడు ఏవిధంగాతెన్నే వానికెందుకు దొంగతనంగా తెన్నే ఆయుధను శిక్షించడానికి ప్రభుత్వానికి అధికారమున్నది. ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితిలో ఆ వర్తకునికి అవకాశమివ్వక, మనకు, అత్యవసరమైనటువంటి పైపులను పోగొట్టుకొనడం బావ్యంగాలేదు. ఈ విధానం అధికాహారోత్పత్తి విధానానికి విరుద్ధం కాబట్టి ఈ విషయమై ప్రభుత్వమువారు జాగ్రత్తగా ఆలోచించి మన రైతులకు కావలసినన్ని పైపులు సరఫరా అగునట్లు చూడవలసినదిగా కోరుతున్నాను.

23rd March 1948] [Sri Monthay Narayana Rao]

“ఈనాడు బోరింగు వైపుల ధరలు చాలా పెద్దగా ఉన్నాయి. ఇంతధరలు పెట్టి వాటిని కొనుక్కోటానికి రైతులకు చాలా కష్టంగా ఉన్నది. అందుచేత ప్రభుత్వం వారు వైపుల ధరలను తగ్గించి రైతులకు వీటిని సగము రేట్లకు supply చేసి నష్టాల్లే ఎక్కువ ఆహార ధాన్యాలన్నీ పండించటానికి ప్రోత్సాహము కలుగుతుంది. తద్వారా వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధి జరుగుతుంది.

“వ్యవసాయాభివృద్ధికి విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి అత్యవసరము. ఈనాడు ముఖ్యంగా ఈ ఆంధ్ర జిల్లాలో రైతులకు వ్యవసాయ నిమిత్తం విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి supply చేయడటం లేవనే చెప్పాలి. విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి విషయంలో మా ఆంధ్ర జిల్లాలోని కూడ చాలా వెనుకబడి ఉన్నాయన్న విషయం అందరకు తెలుసు.

“ఈనాడు ప్రతి జిల్లాలోను ఒక్కొక్క ఫిరకాలో ఫిరకా డెవలప్ మెంటు స్కీము ఉన్నది. మా జిల్లాలోని దెందులూరు ఫిరకాలో ఈ స్కీము పెట్టియున్నారు. ఆ ఫిరకాను అన్ని విధాల అభివృద్ధి చేయటానికి విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి సరఫరా చేస్తామని చెప్పారు. ఈ ఫిరకా ఏలూరుకు సమీపంలో ఉన్నది. ఏలూరునుంచి విద్యుచ్ఛక్తిని ఇక్కడకు సరిఫరా చేయటం లేక కాని ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ విషయంలో ఇంతవరకు ఏమిథమగు ప్రయత్నాలు చేస్తున్నట్లు కనిపించదు. ఏదో కల్లనీళ్లు తుడవటానికి ఇప్పుడు విద్యుచ్ఛక్తి supply చేస్తాము అవడు చేస్తాము అని చెప్పేకన్న తక్షణం తగినంత శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొని ఈ ప్రదేశాలకు విద్యుచ్ఛక్తిని సరఫరా చేయించి అధికాహారోత్పత్తికి తోడ్పడవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారికి నేను మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“రోడ్ల విషయంలో ఈనాడు చాలా అన్యాయాలు జరుగుతున్నాయి. ప్రభుత్వ ఉద్యోగస్తులు వారికి ఎక్కడెక్కడ రోడ్లు అవసరమని అనుకుంటారో అక్కడక్కడ రోడ్లు వేయిస్తున్నారు కాని పజలకు ఏమీ అవసరమే గమనించుటలేదు. కాన రోడ్ల నిర్మాణవిషయం కేవలం ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగుల చేతులలోనే కాకుండా, శాసనసభ్యులు, ఉద్యోగేతరులు అనగా ఆయా ప్రాంతములలోని పెద్దవారు, ఉద్యోగస్తులుగల కమిటీలను ఏర్పాటుచేసి, ఆ కమిటీవారిచేత ఏ ఏ రోడ్లు అవసరమో విచారణచేయించి, వారి సలహాలనుసరించి ఆ రోడ్లను వేయించడం చాలా అవసరమని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“ఆహార విషయం మనకు ఎంత అవసరమో, వ్యవసాయదారులకు వారి పశు సంపద అభివృద్ధి అంత అవసరము. ప్రభుత్వమువారు వ్యవసాయదారులకు చేయవలసిన సహాయములలో ముఖ్యమైనటువంటిది, వ్యవసాయదారునియొక్క పశువులకు రోగములు రాకుండా చూడడం, రోగాలు వచ్చినవన్ని వారణాయలను కల్పించి ఆతనిని కాపాడడం. ఈ supplementary budget లో stockmen compounders ను నియమించడానికి ఏర్పాటులు కలుగజేసారు. ఇది అభినందనీయమైన విషయము. పశువైద్య విషయంలో ఒక చిన్న సలహా ఇవ్వవలచుకొన్నాను.

“ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆయుర్వేద పశు వైద్యానికికూడా తగిన సహాయం చేయవలెను. ఇదివరలో తెనాలిలో యాజ్ఞోశ్రీరాములు అనే ఆయన ఒక ఆయుర్వేద పశువైద్య పాఠశాలను నడిపివారు. ఆయన అనేకమంది శిష్యులను తయారుచేశారు. వారి వైద్య విధానం వలన చాలామంది రైతులకు ఉపకారం జరిగింది. ఇదివరకు ఆయనకు ప్రభుత్వమువారు కొంత ధన సహాయముకూడా చేశారు. కాని అడ్వైజర్ల ప్రభుత్వ కాలంలో ఈ ధన సహాయము ఆపివేయబడింది. దీనికికారణం తెలియదు. ఈ శ్రీరాములుగారు ఆయుర్వేద పశువైద్యము చక్కగా తెలిసినటువంటివారు. వారి వైద్య విధానము చాలా మంచిది.

[Sri Mothay Narayana Rao] [23rd March 1948]

“ఈ నాడు పల్లెటూళ్లలో ఉన్నటువంటి రైతులయొక్క పశువులకు ఏమైనా జబ్బుచేసినదంటే అక్కడనుంచి వారు 10, 15 మైళ్లదూరంలో ఉన్న పట్టణానికి పశు వైద్యానికి గాను రావలసి వస్తోంది. రైతులు తమ పశువులను ఏ ఏలూరు, బెజవాడలో తీసుకొని వెళ్లడం చాలాకష్టం. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆయుర్వేద పశువైద్యానికి తగిన ప్రోత్సాహమిచ్చి, అనేకమంది విద్యార్థులను తయారుచేయించి గ్రామాలలో వారిచేత పశువైద్యాలు చేయించడం అత్యవసరమని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“ఈనాడు పశువుల ధరలు చాలా పెరిగిపోయినవి. ముఖ్యంగా వ్యవసాయానికి పనికివచ్చే పశువుల ధరలు పూర్వపు ధరలకన్న 7, 8 రెట్లువరకు పెరిగిపోయినవి. అంతే కాకుండా బలమైన పశువులు దొరకటం లేదు. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వమువారు ప్రతిజిల్లాకు ఒక dairy farm ను ఏర్పాటుచేసి అక్కడ విత్తనపు పోతులనువుంచి మంచినీటి పశువులను తయారుచేయించవలెను. ఈ విధంగా పశు సంపదను అభివృద్ధిచేసి, రోగనివారణకు పశువైద్య శాలలను ఏర్పాటు చేసినట్లయితే దానివల్ల మన ఆహార పరిస్థితి కూడా చక్కపడుతుందని నా అభిప్రాయము.

“ఈనాడు మనకు అన్నపన్నీలకు కరువు ఏర్పడి ఉన్నది. అందుచేత మనము మిగత విషయాలను కొంత వెనుకపెట్టిఅయినా ఈ అన్నపన్నీల విషయాల విషయమై ఎక్కువ శ్రద్ధతీసుకొనవలెను.

“పెద్ద పెద్ద బట్టల మిల్లలను స్థాపించటానికి చాలాకాలం పడుతుంది. ఈలోపున మనము ఈ వస్త్రీకాటకాన్ని ఎదుర్కోవాలంటే మనకు ఖద్దరే శరణ్యము. ప్రతిగ్రామంలోను కావలసిన ఖద్దరు ఉత్పత్తికి ప్రభుత్వంవారు సహాయముచేసి ప్రజలను ఖద్దరు సుముఖులుగా చేసినట్లయితే మనకు ఎన్నడు వస్త్రీకాటకం రాదు. ఇది గాంధీ మహాత్ముని సిద్ధాంతాలలో ఆతిముఖ్యమయినటువంటిది. కనుక అన్నిటికన్నా ముందు మనకు అన్నపన్నీలలోటులేకుండా ఉండేటట్లు మనగ్రామములను సర్వసమృద్ధంగా చేయించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుతూ ఇంతటితో విరమిస్తున్నాను.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“Sir, one thing which has attracted the attention of the public and my own attention is the figure of Rs. 13.6 crores which is a staggering figure. This is the third supplementary statement. The Government seek to tell us that they could not anticipate the expenditure of Rs. 13.6 crores. This is a very huge figure, a very substantial part of the revenues and expenditure of this province. It pays no compliment to the Government and to their advisers that the Government should bring forward a supplementary demand for Rs. 13.6 crores. What is the use of discussing the figures of a budget if your margin of mistake is about Rs. 13½ crores out of Rs. 50 crores. These demands would not have been allowed to be removed, but for the fact that the Government have a majority behind them. They need not exercise much care in such matters. They need not take any precautions in preparing the budget for the year. Party Government has its advantages but very often there is the tyranny in party discipline and suppression of the individual and corruption in democracy. This is due to the fact that there is very strict and stringent tyrannical application of party discipline. Members belonging to the party and supporting it have to raise up their hands whatever be the margin of mistake, even if it is Rs. 13½ crores. They have to pass

23rd March 1948] [Dr. V. K. John]

the original and the supplementary budgets. With all the strength at my command, I condemn the presentation of this supplementary budget with such a staggering figure.

"Then, Sir, if hon. Members had gone into these figures, they would have found that not even one rupee out of these 13·6 crores has been spent for the welfare of the common man. I do not find that even one rupee has been spent out of 13·6 crores in preparing a list of unemployed men in this Province. The Hon. Minister for Labour is mostly concerned with under-paid labour. The Government do not seem to bestow any attention on the question of unemployment. Unemployment is a much more serious thing than under-paid employment. If the Government had spent a little out of this amount to prepare a list of educated, uneducated, skilled, unskilled, industrial and agricultural unemployed people, that money would have been spent well. If Government had prepared the ground in spending 13 crores of rupees to introduce measures for unemployment insurance, old age pensions, widows pensions, and maintenance of orphans or something which benefits the common man we could very well say 'Allright, this is a good thing they did'."

4-15
p.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Insurance is a Central subject."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"The Provincial Government can take steps to persuade the authority concerned."

"Then, Sir, I say this expenditure is a huge waste from my point of view. If money had been spent in stepping up production, it would have been money well spent. On the other hand, we find that one lakh out of this 13·6 crores has been spent in preparing the ground for passing a legislation for expropriating the zamindaris. If Government had spent a little out of this amount for passing a very simple measure enabling the cultivator of the soil to become the owner of the land, whether the ownership now vests in the zamindar or the middle man or the ryot, it would have been a very good thing."

"There have been complaints throughout the Province that our boys and girls seeking admission in schools and colleges are unable to get admission. I find that some money had been spent on education which was not anticipated when the last budget was presented. If there was any mistake at the time the budget was presented and more money was required for education, surely the Hon. Minister for Education ought to have asked for that money and money could have been found for that purpose. The Hon. Minister should have taken adequate steps for starting sufficient schools and colleges for admitting all boys and girls who are willing to pay for education. If you look at the various figures which made up this 13·6 crores, you will find very little out of this has been spent for the welfare of the common man. But you will find that the Government and their advisers cannot, did not and would not anticipate what the real expenditure on various heads

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are. Without doing this, they have incurred a colossal expenditure of 13.6 crores for which amount they come forward before the House with a supplementary demand at the end of the year. I say the procedure adopted is fundamentally wrong and ought to be strongly condemned. Government ought to know their minds in time. If we scrutinize the figures, we shall find that a major portion of the expenditure of 13.6 crores has been a waste."

SRI D. MANJAYYA HEGDE :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am very glad that Government have come forward with some plans and schemes that would contribute to the welfare and progress of society. I would urge on the Hon. Minister that more grants be allotted for village communications and more facilities be found for the advancement of elementary education in the interior parts of my district. I know that hundreds of villages go without education. Even if there were some panchayat schools, they are not regularly functioning on account of the indifferent attitude adopted by Government Officers in not paying the grants due to the teachers of these schools regularly. I know that in a school in Puttur taluk, the teacher who works there did not get the grant for a very long period. If Government really want to advance education in the country, they must take care of these panchayat schools. Whenever responsible officers of Government including the Ministers happen to visit our district, they never go to the interior parts. Their activities are confined only to coastal towns. Unless they go to the interior parts and see the sufferings of the people there, we cannot expect any progress or any help from Government.

" Therefore, I appeal to Government to provide more schools in the interior parts of my district and also open new roads to link the different villages that are scattered in these parts and I would urge on the attention of the Government that they should start one high school for each taluk. If their idea is that more high schools and colleges should be opened in our district, they should furnish the necessary materials and grant permits to such of those private agencies who are very eager to open schools.

" With these few words, I resume my seat."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have not got much to say on this subject. My Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao wanted to know whether the felling operations were done by the Forest department itself or through private contractors. Evidently he has not looked at page 5 of the Demands for Grants for further expenditure.

" He also wanted to know why the two road rollers have been purchased by the Government. The reason for the purchase of these rollers is that without metalling the Mannarghat-Attapadi road which is absolutely essential for the extraction of timber nothing can be done there. So this has nothing to do with the lease of Silent Valley. One of the hon. Members wanted to know what became of the tractors, whether they were really used

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and where they are stored. The tractors that we have purchased have been placed at the disposal of the District Agricultural Officers in every district and they are asked to lend them to such of those ryots who are in need of them. These tractors are in very great demand and, as a matter of fact, some of the ryots go in despair that they would not be able to get them at all. In fact, hundreds of applications are pending before the District Officers, and they are dealt with according to priority.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend asked about the purchase of pipes, etc., at a cost of Rs. 19,00,000. It is specifically mentioned in the Explanatory note itself that they are intended for supply to ryots. I may mention, Sir, that these are to be sold to the ryots at cost price and that is why the allotment is made.

4-30
p m.

"In regard to the question of giving permits for a person in Tinnevely to a dealer in Bezwada, it was there before, but it has been overcome and we are now able to supply the articles in the district itself.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Narayana Rao wanted that ayurvedic veterinary hospitals should be opened. The very demand is there. At page 29 of the note, item (iii), this very thing is mentioned, namely: 'On the suggestion of Sri Y. Sriramulu Chowdhari, Ayurvedic Veterinary Doctor, Tenali, Guntur district, for starting Ayurvedic veterinary dispensaries in all the 34 firkas and centres selected for intensive rural reconstruction work, the Government have decided to open one such dispensary as an experimental measure in Dendur firka, West Godavari district. Extension of the scheme to other firkas will be taken up later on the successful working of the scheme in the Dendur firka.' That is why this specific demand has been asked for. If the working of this dispensary is found useful, Government will certainly think of starting a college. Until the Government are satisfied that it works properly, there is no meaning in starting a college. That is all I have to say and there is nothing more, Sir."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I want to touch on only one or two points. On page 53 of the Memorandum, there is a fresh appropriation of Rs. 73,700 for supply of fodder in the Anantapur and Kistna districts. I want to know, Sir, whether the fodder reached the place in proper time and whether it was used by the people at all, whether payment was made after sending it there, or whether it was sold to dealers for a song? I think the fodder reached the place only after the rains came and it was never used and it went on reaching the place for months and months and even a year and so the amount spent on it was only a waste. I am putting forward this as an example to show how the Government are going about the business. For instance, the Home Guards' training scheme was taken to be an urgent thing; an Ordinance was passed and immediately a Bill was introduced and what has been done with it? Now, some new Commandants who are not trained and who have had no experience of military

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training, I think, have been appointed. They are trained first for three or six months and afterwards some Home Guards will be trained by these new people. I think this training also will be made after the purpose is over, after the villages have been looted and people attacked. Many a thing can be said about the distribution of implements also. The same may be said about the purchase of the tractors, etc. When we are unable to supply even the crude implements to the ryots in the shape of iron implements, plough-shares, etc., I think the Grow More Food campaign is going to be a failure. Sir, I think, this kind of delay must be avoided in every respect. With these few words, I resume my seat."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
" Sir, I rise to reply only to one point which was raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, and that is about bifurcation of studies. This is a matter which has been working the minds of many educationists for the last 10 or 12 years, since there has been a great deal of wastage of education. For instance, a Zoology graduate or a Chemistry Presidency first and every first class graduate of whom we are rightly proud, is found to be in places where there knowledge is not to be utilized at all, i.e., in the Secretariat, in the District Board offices and in the Taluk Board offices. We have found that untrained clerks are not very useful and if we are to divert these people even at the proper time and at the proper place, then we shall have, what is called, bifurcation of studies. This has been accepted by educationists all over India. It has been accepted by the Sargent Committee and accepted by many and so it is nothing new that we are trying to do. This bifurcation of courses which the Government propose to introduce will, I hope, be useful in the dissemination of all sorts of useful knowledge which will fit these people for life, instead of teaching them aimlessly and asking the students to go and join the colleges and later on join the ranks of the unemployed. This is an important provision which has been made to avoid unemployment in the future. Dr. John probably does not want us to take that position and I will only tell him that this matter has been considered, not once, or twice, but for many years and at last it has been found possible for the Government to introduce the scheme and we hope it will be very useful, in guiding the future of the students in our schools, who are young.

" Now, coming to admissions, Sir, I think, my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition asked, ' Can you not foresee the expenditure ? ' I would like to point out to him that in 1940-41 after the Congress came to power something like 73 high schools were started and it is not possible for the Government to foresee what would be the number of students seeking admission and the number of high schools which would be required. But, in the coming year, which will commence from May or June, we may be in a position to know the demand for the number of high schools to be started and it is not now possible to foresee it. If in this year and in the subsequent years, the demand is more, then we can

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forsee. I think we have to be congratulated for coming up with supplementary grants for this purpose and if the demand is great, then we come forward with supplementary demands to meet the demand for education. The fact that we are coming forward with supplementary grants is by itself proof of our expansion of education and something on which we should congratulate ourselves rather than take a school-boy view of a case and say, why don't you foresee before.

"Now about panchayat schools, Sir, I sympathise with my hon. Friend, who made the representation. I may tell him that I am trying to make all attempts to see that the salaries reach the people in proper time.

"As for encouragement to be given to high schools, I may say that Government have come forward to give more grants for aided schools to start high schools by aided agencies. The other matter which was referred to by hon. Members, is an important one and that is, they are not able to get the necessary material. On this matter I wish to give the information at my disposal. There are military stores at various places in our province and such of the stores which are found useful to the Government for house-building have been taken over. There are also certain other stores with the military authorities or which are run by the Government of India. The matter has been referred to the Government of India, that those stores must be made available for educational and such other philanthropic institutions. The reply that has been received from the Government of India was that such of those materials which are not necessary for them or for the Provincial Government may be released for educational and such other philanthropic institutions through their agency and I am sure our aided agencies will take advantage of this offer. They have also stated that detailed information about these things may be got from the military authorities themselves. So, Sir, such of the materials available with them and taken over by the Provincial Government will be made available to educational and other philanthropic institutions. I do not think, Sir, I have anything more to add to the discussion."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, the question of polytechnics was raised and I am glad that one hon. Member said that polytechnics is useful and so I need not say much about it. I think the hon. Leader of the Opposition stated that the scheme is a waste and I can assure the hon. Member that it is not a waste; on the other hand, it is a useful instrument for training people. I am sure the polytechnic schools are the best means of producing good things. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao raised the question of polytechnic schools being opened in the Rayalaseema districts. I may inform him that the proposal is being considered by the Government and we expect to open a polytechnic in the Ceded districts during the next academic year.

"So far as industrial schools are concerned, the suggestion of having at least one school for every two districts will be considered.

FOR THE YEAR 1947-48

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Then, Sir, the hon. Member raised the question of the Andhra Jateeya Kalasala. I had occasion to visit the Kalasala and after my seeing the institution, I had occasion to discuss the matter with the Director of Industries. Under instructions from the Government, the Joint Director of Industries recently visited this place and discussed the matter with the authorities concerned. Certain proposals have been put forward by the Director of Industries in the matter of usefully running the institution and making use of all the available material there and the result of the discussion was that with the use of materials like lathes, and other equipment, many useful articles can be manufactured. The matter will be put before the House very soon.

“ One hon. Member raised the question of distribution of iron and steel and the inadequacy of it and he suggested that we should make efforts to get more iron and steel for this province. I can assure the hon. Member that we are anxious to get an increased quota for this province, but with all our efforts we have not been able to get more iron and steel. For the year 1947, though we were promised 31,000 tons, the actual receipt was not even half of that and out of that, half has gone to agriculture. So far as the agricultural quota is concerned, we are allotting much more than what every other province is doing in the matter. So, there cannot be any question of Government being indifferent to agricultural interests. Again, Sir, wherever it is possible, we sponsor applications for importing iron and steel from other countries for the needs of the people of this province.

“ Lastly, Sir, I would like to say a word about the question of silk which my hon. Friend raised. He was questioning about the necessity or need for the silk that has been purchased from the Government of India. Sir, the Government of India imported on their own account a lot of silk from Japan and other silk-producing centres like Madras, Bengal and Mysore and they have taken over the entire stock of Japanese silk, so that there can be no question of competition in the matter of rates. Because all the three provinces have been producing silk at enormous cost and the silk imported from Japan or abroad should not compete with the production in the provinces. It was found that the three provinces, Madras, Bengal and Mysore, had lost very heavily and so an agreement was come to. It is in the interests of this province that a lot of silk has been purchased. I may inform the hon. Member that 20 per cent of the profit is going to be retained by the Provincial Government and the balance would go to the Central Pool, so that the entire amount of profit will be useful for sericultural research. (An hon. Member : ‘ There is no loss ’) We have assured ourselves that the Government of India will permit the three provinces to sell their stock of silk at a fixed rate, so that there may be no loss on our production. Our production costs a good lot and if this silk is sold at a lower rate, as I have stated, the provinces would have lost heavily.

“ Naturally, Sir, the Government of India wanted that if we had made any money it should be shared with them and I can

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assure hon. Members that profit is bound to arise out of this transaction and it will go to develop the Sericulture industry in all the three provinces. Also, a Sericulture Board is proposed to be set up in the interests of the silk-producing provinces." 4-45 p.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Mr. President, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have made very useful criticisms on the Demands placed before the House.

" As usual, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao and Dr. V. K. John took very strong exception to the way in which the Supplementary Demands were presented, costing ultimately 13.6 crores of rupees, as Dr. John would have it. As a consequence of my assurance given last year on the suggestion of Mr. Suryanarayana Rao himself, I took pains to present Supplementary Demands in the course of the year instead of waiting till the end of the year and so in September and December also, I came before the House with my Supplementary Demands. This has been made necessary in a large measure owing to insufficiency of original grants concerned for expenditure on standing sanctions. We are in a very critical time and what will take place in the next year cannot be anticipated and when anything turns up, we have to meet that emergent situation. For instance, when we framed last year's budget, nobody could have anticipated that there will be trouble on the border of Hyderabad and that we will be obliged to incur heavy expenditure on the Police department. Likewise, we anticipated under State Trading Schemes about 12 crores but actually we only spent about a crore and odd. There is a good deal of saving in that. Our revenue went up under various heads and we have to take stock of so many factors before we decide on our expenditure. While there was reduction on many accounts, there was also increased expenditure under many heads. We did not want merely to put them into the Revenue Reserve Fund but wanted that the whole money should be spent in the current year, if possible. So, it is not as though we have spent 13.6 crores without the sanction of the Legislature. If the hon. the Leader of the Opposition had carefully gone through the statement, he would have seen that these various items, for instance the loan to the Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank for financing procurement operations—four crores—could not have been naturally anticipated and when they wanted it for those purposes, necessarily we have to take the sanction of the Legislature also. Likewise, under the Police Demand, we had to incur very heavy expenditure of an unforeseen kind and it has come to 2.45 crores of rupees over the budget estimate of last year and we had to pay back about eighty-five lakhs to the Government of India which was taken for the Grow More Food Campaign in 1944-45. For sinking wells we had to spend about seventy-eight lakhs over the revised estimates. For rural water-supply, we created a fund to which we diverted about 99 lakhs. It is all demands on account of the insufficiency of the original grants on standing sanctions based on the existing orders. That is one big thing. The number of Demands and the

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amount would have been much smaller but for the fact that, as a consequence of the transfer of power on 15th August 1947, some items of expenditure, mainly pay, allowances and pensions of officers previously appointed by the Secretary of State for India which were till then treated as charged expenditure have become votable from that day. No reappropriation can be made from the charged to voted items and *vice versa*. It has therefore become necessary to make a Supplementary Demand in almost every grant. The revision of salaries took place some time in February, last year. Actually the draws of money were made only in the current year and naturally the budget estimates could not be accurate and correct, because we did not take what was going to happen with regard to the revision of salaries in February into account and so for that Demand also, there was a Supplementary Demand. So, Sir, this item alone represents about nine crores and odd and salaries also represent some lakhs of rupees or a crore and there is nothing that the Government did without the sanction of the Legislature. After all, after a good deal of delay from the various heads of departments and in the Secretariat, the Standing Finance Committee gives its assent to a good scheme. If we were to call for the approval of the House, we would have to wait for another three or four months. Whether it is really desirable to keep that pending for the actual prior approval of the Legislature, is a matter that is to be decided by the Executive Government. After all, the Legislature has chosen the Executive and that Executive commands a majority and it ought to be allowed to incur some of this expenditure which will be placed before the House immediately after the Legislature meets. If you apply the estoppel on the Executive Government and say that every little item of expenditure is actually approved by the Legislature, then so many good schemes will have to be held up and it is not desirable either. So some small latitude must be given to Government and we hope that instead of damning us, you will compliment us for meeting an emergent situation and for incurring necessary expenditure under the various items.

"I was wondering whether my hon. friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao is playing Dr. Jekyll and Hyde because as a member of the Retrenchment Committee where he serves as the watch dog of the finances of the province he says that all superfluous appointments should be removed and all such thing but whenever he speaks on the floor of the House he speaks as a Leftist, as the champion of the underdog and the champion of the superannuated pensioner and the champion of the non-gazetted officers and he wants the Government to incur expenditure to the tune of four to five crores of rupees. Already the salary and pension Bill is very high and it is already disproportionate to our revenues and to the various items of expenditure. But he wants that all the pensioners must be paid according to some commission which we are not aware of. (Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao : But you have adopted it in the case of dearness allowance to officers as it suits you). Whatever it is, while in the Retrenchment Committee he plays the part of one

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who is the watchdog of the administrative machinery of the Government, on the floor of the House he becomes the champion of someone else and he wants Government to incur expenditure."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Can the secrets of the Retrenchment Committee be given out, Sir? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is not a secret."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" It is a very difficult position for Mr. Suryanarayana Rao ; he classified himself as one of doubtful qualities and I do not know who called him so. I am aware that nobody on the floor of the House called the members of the Retrenchment Committee as of doubtful qualities."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Qualities or politics."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Qualities, Sir."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, perhaps he is referring to some editorial comments or to speeches made somewhere. They gave us the impression that they are blowing hot and cold. They want some posts to be removed and in the same breath they want us to incur heavy expenditure which we cannot afford. The history of the dearness allowance is before the House ; we have tried our best to meet the demands of our non-gazetted officers and we are anxious that we should carry them with us but what shall we do in the present state of our finances. The hon. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao knows very well that next year we are likely to face a deficit ; last year, we had a deficit but fortunately owing to various fortuitous circumstances we had a little surplus which we transferred to the Revenue Reserve Fund. For some time till we adjust our finances, we cannot do anything more for our non-gazetted officers in spite of our best wishes to them. We regret to say that what we can do we have done and nothing more is possible. Regarding the pensioners, it is another question and that is with regard to the liability of the Government. We are thankful to those people who served so well and efficiently the Government that were in existence previously ; they served for 25 and 30 years and they earned their pensions. But if the cost of living index went up, I do not know whether it is obligatory on the part of Government to incur additional expenditure on those pensions ; suppose the cost of living index goes down, I do not think the pensioners would have returned any money as a gratuity to Government ; it is not a one-sided business and simply because it is very high just now, to expect Government to incur additional expenditure on these pensioners, is to argue in a different manner. Though we do not accept any liability for people who have retired some years ago, yet with regard to pensioners drawing below Rs. 100, the Provincial Government afforded them help to a little extent. As a sort of uniformity and in consultation with other Provincial Governments and the Government of India we have taken this step and it is not a pie less than what the other Provincial Governments

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have paid. In Bombay and Calcutta, the cost of living index must be equally high and they could not give according to the cost of living index to their pensioners; we have not done anything fundamentally wrong and whatever we have done is in consultation with the Central Government and the other Provincial Governments. My hon. friend Suryanarayana Rao humourously remarked that whenever it suited we accepted the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission; is there anything fundamentally wrong about it; when it suits me I accept it but where it does not suit my capacity which is very limited, we cannot afford to do it and naturally, we have to say: 'it does not exist for me and I do not know about it because I have not appointed that committee.' Even while I appointed the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee, it is only an advisory committee and the Government have to consider its recommendations from various angles and in some cases we have turned down their recommendations. Government is in possession of certain points which the Reorganization Committee is not in possession of and they have to consider their recommendations from an altogether different administrative point of view and come to their conclusions in the matter.

" Mr. R. Suryanarayana Rao mentioned about the Premier's Secretariat. I suppose that in spite of explanations he is not fully convinced. The duties of the Premier have doubled after the 15th August 1947 and various little things which used to be dealt with in the Governor's Secretariat under the Secretariat instructions are now going to him and are disposed of finally by the Premier himself. I do not know whether I can enumerate them just now on the floor of the House. He wanted a Principal Private Secretary and no Government worth the name can deny or deprive the Premier of the necessary secretarial assistance and so, Sir, there is nothing wrong that we have done in allowing him a Principal Private Secretary.

" With regard to the privileges of the services, of course, the files are going to the Governor and memorials could be sent to him. They pass through the concerned Ministers and also the Premier because he is in charge of the services and naturally he has to make his own comments on the matter before the file is finally sent to the Governor. The Governor because he is acting as a constitutional Governor will accept the recommendations of the Government, either that of the Minister or the Premier ultimately and we do not know of any cases where he has interfered with the recommendations of the Ministers.

" Mr. Suryanarayana Rao referred to the question of the grant to the Lucknow University. We are very sorry that we gave only a pittance while the authorities asked for more. We know that many of our youngsters go to North India and fully utilize the courses offered by the Lucknow University. As a token of our sympathy, we gave a small grant to that University. While we

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are anxious to open research departments in our own universities, some token grant will go a long way to smoothen our relations with other Governments and universities. 5 p.m.

" Mr. Ranga Reddi has raised a point about the need for constructing bridges. He pointed out how the District officers are put to inconvenience due to the absence of a bridge near Chinnur in Cuddapah district. Similar difficulty exists in my own district, the Nellore district, which is bifurcated by the Pennar. Seven taluks on the one side and six taluks on the other are cut off one from the other during floods, and the people are put to inconvenience. We also are anxious that the bridge works must be taken up immediately. There is a Superintending Engineer in charge of these works and he is doing his utmost to see that the works are taken up as soon as possible. I am sure Cuddapah also will get its priority, and everything possible will be done to expedite the Pennar bridge at Chinnur.

" The subject of electricity also came in for discussion. I am glad to announce that the West Godavari scheme is being sanctioned and ere long Palacole and other places will have electricity. This point was raised by Mr. Govindacharyulu in the general discussion also, and it is being looked into.

" As regards minor schemes, Chingleput was taken as an experimental district. If the experiment is found successful, it might be extended to other districts also. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao wanted that it should be extended to the Ceded districts immediately. We are undertaking the tank restoration scheme in the Ceded districts and most of the tanks there will be restored to their normal usefulness.

" Mr. Ranga Reddi wanted that rural water-supply contribution should not be demanded from local bodies. As the Hon. Minister for Public Health has repeatedly said on the floor of the legislature, the report of the rural water supply and drainage committee is under the consideration of the Government. We have sanctioned special staff in the Secretariat to examine the report. Certainly we shall bear his suggestion in mind when we come to final conclusions.

" Mr. Suryanarayana Rao complained that while the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee was sitting, various new posts were being sanctioned. Things cannot wait till the Committee submits its report and final decisions on the recommendations are taken by the Government. When there are so many emergencies and when we want more money to be spent on developmental schemes, some additional staff may be necessary to speed up matters. Nothing can be held up because the Retrenchment Committee is sitting.

" Lastly, it has been complained that nothing has been done for the common man. The common man complex is very much in the mind of the Leader of the Opposition. I am glad he is championing the cause of the common man and I am sure that with his power of persuasion and eloquence, he will continue to do so. The Government also are alive to the need for improving the lot of the

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common man. He pleaded for maternity benefit and old age pensions. They ought to be taken by the Government of India. Naturally they are central subjects, and we want some uniformity also in all the provinces. So I think he will do well to address the Central Government on this matter. Meanwhile he will help the Government to push on with the schemes they have already undertaken because we are anxious that our ameliorative measures must be intensified before we think of taking up items coming under the purview of the Central Government.

“ I think I have covered almost all matters of importance. If anything is left over, hon. Members can elicit information by asking questions or by writing to the Minister concerned. I am thankful to the hon. Members for their fair criticism and useful suggestions.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ To-day I have adopted the suggestion made by the hon. Member Mr. P. R. K. Sarma as regards questions. But I am sorry he came too late even to take advantage of that.”

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—“ I am sorry I could not be present as I was stuck up in the Industrial Tribunal.”

The House then adjourned *sine die*.

வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

23rd March 1948]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 48 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1948, page 55 supra.]

Statement showing the particulars of travelling allowance and daily allowance drawn by the staff that accompanied the Hon. Ministers to the Constituent Assembly.

Name of Hon. Minister.	Staff that accompanied by train.	Period		Expenditure on travelling and daily allowances of staff.
		From	To	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
				RS.
Hon. Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar, Premier.	One clerk and two peons.	24th April 1947.	8th May 1947 ..	427
	Do.	10th July 1947.	2nd August 1947.	552
	Do.	16th August 1947.	3rd September 1947.	509
Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan, Minister (Home).	Personal Assistant and a peon.	24th April 1947.	7th May 1947 ..	277
	Do.	5th June 1947 ..	18th June 1947.	203
	Do.	11th July 1947.	29th July 1947.	239
	Do.	11th August 1947.	3rd September 1947.	280
	A clerk and a peon.	13th November 1947.	20th November 1947.	179
Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi, Minister (Finance).	A clerk and a peon.	24th April 1947.	8th May 1947 ..	339
	Personal Assistant and two peons.	16th August 1947.	3rd September 1947.	383
	A clerk and two peons.	13th November 1947.	25th November 1947.	465
Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao, Minister (Land Revenue).	A clerk and a peon.	24th April 1947.	8th May 1947 ..	349
	Personal Assistant and two peons.	10th July 1947.	23rd July 1947.	486
	Do.	21st August 1947.	1st September 1947.	493
	Personal Assistant and a peon.	12th November 1947.	22nd November 1947.	369
Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi, Minister (Industries).	Personal Assistant and two peons.	24th April 1947.	5th May 1947 ..	474
	A clerk and a peon.	10th July 1947.	2nd August 1947.	413
	Personal Assistant and a peon.	18th August 1947.	2nd September 1947.	420
	A clerk and two peons.	15th November 1947.	25th November 1947.	465

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Name of Hon. Minister.	Staff that accompanied by train.	Period		Expenditure on travelling and daily allowances of staff.
		From	To	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Hon. Sri K. Chandramouli, Minister (Local Administration).	Personal Assistant and a peon.	24th April 1947.	7th May 1947 ..	RS. 400
	A clerk and two peons.	11th July 1947.	2nd August 1947.	459
	A clerk and a peon.	16th August 1947.	3rd September 1947.	457
	A clerk and two peons.	12th November 1947.	25th November 1947.	467
Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon, Minister (Agriculture).	A clerk and a peon.	24th April 1947.	8th May 1947 ..	331
	Do.	17th August 1947.	29th August 1947.	409
	Personal Assistant and a peon.	12th November 1947.	25th November 1947.	365
Grand total ..				10,210

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 53 asked by Sri D. Krishnamurthi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1948, page 64 supra.]

G. O. Ms. No. 2640, Development, dated 16th March 1944.

[Civil Supplies—Paper—Production and supply by Andhra Paper Mills Company, Rajahmundry—Appointment of an “Authorized Controller” under rule 81 (3) of the Defence of India Rules—Orders passed.]

1. Complaints were received by the Government that the paper produced by the Andhra Paper Mills Company, Rajahmundry, was not properly accounted for. A consignment of 40 tons of paper manufactured by the Mills was also seized while it was being taken by boat to Madras. The Government therefore called for from the Mills statements of particulars as to the total output of paper, the quantities supplied on Government account and those released for public consumption, for each of the six months ending with January 1944. From the statements furnished by the Mills it was seen that the average monthly output during those six months worked out to some 85 tons of paper, which is much below the capacity of the Mills. The Government have strong reasons to believe that a considerable portion of the output of the Mills is being diverted and otherwise disposed of in the blackmarket. The Government therefore consider that for maintaining supplies and services essential to the life of the community, it is necessary to exercise control over the activities of the Mills to ensure that the quantity of paper manufactured is actually brought to account and

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is equitably distributed and to appoint an officer of the grade of Sub-Inspector of Excise on a pay of Rs. 55 per mensem for this purpose for a period of six months in the first instance.

2. (a) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-rule (3) of rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules, His Excellency the Governor of Madras is hereby pleased to authorize Sri C. T. Krishnan Chetty, Officiating Sub-Inspector of Excise, Waltair subdivision, (hereinafter referred to as the "Authorized Controller") to exercise with respect to the Andhra Paper Mills Company, Ltd., Rajahmundry (hereinafter referred to as "The Mills") the following functions of control in order to ensure that the quantity of paper produced by the Mills is properly accounted for and that the quantity of paper set apart for civil consumption is equitably distributed :—

(1) to check by constant supervision the quantity of paper produced by, and despatched out of, the Mills each day;

(2) to check each day the invoices, stock and other accounts of the Mills to ensure that the quantity of paper produced each day and the quantity despatched each day for sale or for other purposes have all been brought into account; and

(3) to enter any part of the Mills and the offices attached thereto and to inspect any record of the Mills during working hours.

(b) The authorized controller shall observe the following instructions :—

(1) The authorized controller shall have accommodation for his office within the precincts of the Mills and shall be present in his office during the working hours of the Mills.

(2) The authorized controller shall submit to the Government through the Collector of East Godavari, a fortnightly report showing the quantity of paper produced, the quantity reserved for the Government, the quantity available for civil consumption and the quantity actually despatched for civil consumption during the previous fortnight.

(3) The authorized controller shall carry out such other instructions as may be issued to him from time to time by the Government, the Board of Revenue and the Collector of East Godavari relating to the exercise of his functions.

3. Sri C. T. Krishnan Chetty will draw the pay to which he is eligible as Sub-Inspector of Excise. He should report the date of his taking over charge of his new office to the Collector, to the Board of Revenue and to the Government. The expenditure will be debited to the head of account "64. B—Civil Defence—Section IV—Expenditure borne wholly by Provincial Government—C. Miscellaneous—Establishment for price control—I—Board of Revenue—Pay of establishment".

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 54 asked by Sri H. M. Jaganatham (on behalf of Sri P. R. K. Sarma), at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1948, page 66 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 319, Development, dated 22nd January 1948.

[Labour—Disputes—Dispute between the workers and the management of the Western India Match Factory—Tiruvottiyur—Recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal—Orders passed.]

READ—the following papers :—

G.O. No. 4908, Development, dated 16th October 1947.

From the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, dated 3rd January 1948,
No. I-D. 20/47.

Order—No. 319, Development, dated 22nd January 1948.

Whereas the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in respect of the industrial dispute between the workers and the management of the Western India Match Factory, Tiruvottiyur, has been received.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 15 (2) read with section 19 (3) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (Central Act XIV of 1947), His Excellency the Governor of Madras hereby declares that the said award shall be binding on the management of the Western India Match Factory, Tiruvottiyur, and the workers employed therein and directs that the said award shall come into operation on the 22nd January 1948 and shall remain in operation for a period of one year.

BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL, MADRAS.

Sri M. VENKATARAMAIA, B.A., B.L.

In the matter of the Industrial Disputes Act and in the matter of the industrial dispute between the workers and the Management of the Western India Match Factory, Tiruvottiyur, Madras.

AWARD.

The above dispute was referred to me for adjudication in G.O. Ms. No. 1842, Development, dated 26th April 1947. As I was on leave for three months and the dispute remained undisposed of, it was again referred to me for adjudication in G.O. Ms. No. 4908, Development, dated 16th October 1947.

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The Western India Match Factory was represented by Mr. Rajeswara Rao of Messrs. John and Row and the workers were represented by Mr. P. R. K. Sarma, M.L.C., the President of the Union.

Issue No. 1.—Whether Murugesan, Rangaswami, Shukoor and Kulla Govindan were wrongfully removed from service and whether their reinstatement should be directed.

Murugesan, Rangaswami, Shukoor and Kulla Govindan were employees in the WIMCO and were removed from service on 29th July 1939 and the Union now applies for their reinstatement. In one and the same breath the Union represents that these four workers were not dismissed and yet they want their reinstatement. The fact is that their services were terminated on 29th July 1939 as Exhibits VIII series show. The reason for this was that they were all convicted by the Sessions Judge, Chingleput, in S.C. No. 11 of 1939 and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, the offences being rioting and mischief by fire and in some cases hurt also. The important section is section 426, Indian Penal Code. There was a conspiracy to set fire to the factory and there was rioting and some property was actually destroyed. When the Management found that their own workmen inclusive of the four persons mentioned above were engaged in the act of committing mischief by fire to their property and a court found them guilty of the offence, it cannot be said that the dismissal was improper. Mr. Sarma said that one of these men, Shukoor, was convicted by the High Court only under section 147 and not under section 426, Indian Penal Code. Be that as it may, an employee of a factory engaging himself in rioting and unlawful assembly and having been convicted in the court, and that a Sessions Court, and the sentence having been confirmed by the High Court, even if it be under section 147, Indian Penal Code only, has no right to be reinstated. I do not think many more reasons are required for the dismissal of an employee than this. The issue is found against the workers and reinstatement cannot be directed.

Issue No. 2.—Whether a scheme for gratuity should be introduced in respect of service prior to the introduction of the Provident Fund Scheme in 1945?

This company has been functioning in Madras since 1929. In 1945 they introduced a scheme of provident fund under which the contribution by the employee and the employer is 8½ per cent but that, as I said, is from 1945. The Union demands that for the period from 1929 to 1945 there should be a gratuity given at the rate of one month's salary for every year of service. The company says that no such gratuity can be a right exercisable. It has often been held that though gratuity and bonus do not partake of the nature of any contract, it can be the subject-matter of adjudication. This demand is characterized by the company in paragraph 10 of their written statement as "preposterous". In passing, I may say I have not found the pleadings of parties

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couched in such unnecessary strong language as in this dispute. For example, I refer to this: "After reference to this Industrial Tribunal of the industrial disputes for adjudication, disobedience to order, insubordination, frivolous complaints, and stay-in strikes have become the order of the day and became more frequent than previously." I hope Government will take due notice of this kind of language coming from a management claiming to be a paragon of virtue in regard to the conditions of service and other matters.

In the Burma-Shell Company, when provident fund scheme was introduced they did grant gratuity half a month's salary up to a particular period of service and thereafter at one month. There is no unreasonableness in a man who has put in 20 years of service to demand a gratuity when he is obliged to quit service. This very same company, WIMCO, grants as a matter of fact gratuity. It is mentioned that they have been giving gratuity which depends upon "whether a certain worker has pleased his employer and if so to what extent." This is the very point which the labour is contending against. A workman who has rendered good service, and efficient service for a long period of time and whose services have benefited the company in the matter of profits is entitled to, or at any rate, must be deemed to have earned a right to get some amount of money irrespective of whether the employer is pleased or not pleased. The days are gone when the employer can dictate to his employees saying "If you will kneel and be suppliant, you will get a gratuity and a large sum at that. But if you stand firm and do not show proper respect you shall not get anything." The whole tenor of the statement filed by the company in this dispute unfortunately shows an extremely hostile attitude towards labour. I hope the company will now at least realize that it owes a duty to the labour which has stood by the company during all the terrible years of war and even before. It is they, the workmen, who have helped this Swedish Company to establish itself in Madras and, therefore, apart from all legal rights moral liability falls on the employer to treat the labour with something other than contempt. They should realize that labour is as much a part of the industry as the owners of factories.

This is the only case in which I felt necessary to return to the parties their written statements and they filed fresh statements. Yet the language has not been modified to any extent. Inasmuch as there is at least one employer of labour who indulges in language unbecoming of respectability, the Government will do well to amend the rules framed under the Industrial Disputes Act so as to bring management as well as Labour Unions to a sense of responsibility to observe ordinary canons of good behaviour and not to use intemperate language. I do not know why the parties should not be dealt with for contempt of court even. Does the WIMCO wish me to believe that Government's action in referring disputes to adjudication has led to indiscipline and other ills in the industry?

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Is it not terrible to see that a workman in the factory should go to the length of setting fire to the factory? They should consider to what a degree of exasperation they should have been roused to perpetrate such a nefarious act. It is not mere fun that makes people do such nefarious deeds. It is want of sympathy; it is want of consideration for the lot of the worker and it is the growing feeling and suffering on the part of the worker that drives him to such acts. Why should the payment of gratuity depend upon the pleasure of the employer as the management say at page 10 of their statement? They say "Whenever a worker has died the company has made *ex gratia* payment to cover reasonable funeral expenses although not bound to do so." Later on, "it is the privilege of the management to grant or refuse payment of gratuity . . ." What is worse, in spite of the statutory requirement that there should be standing orders which clearly define the conditions of service this company has not yet done so. There are no standing orders even now and to leave things to the 'Pleasure' of the company seems to me to be rather dangerous at least so far as the WIMCO is concerned.

It is only the Burma-Shell Company's rules which are directly comparable to companies of this kind. There also the provident fund was introduced some 16 or 17 years ago and service before that period was not left out of account. Whereas a man who has contributed towards the provident fund gets the provident fund from the date of its institution, he would get for the previous service, i.e., for service prior to the institution of the provident fund a gratuity calculated at a certain rate. I think that principle is very sound and I hold that the WIMCO should give to the employees gratuity at half a month's salary for each year of service up to the date of the introduction of the provident fund in 1945. This calculated gratuity will become payable along with the provident fund.

Issue No. 3.—Whether the salaries, piece rates and wages now in force are inadequate and require to be increased? If so, in what manner?

(a) Whether the starting salary of Re. 1-1-0 for a fitter employed after test is too low?

(b) Whether the yard workers' wages deserve to be raised? If so, to what extent?

Naturally the question of wages and salaries must demand greater attention and much discussion has also taken place on the subject. In order to determine whether piece rate or wage or salary is adequate or not three main factors have to be considered. One is whether in kindred industries in the same locality the rate is the same or approximately the same, secondly what does the same company pay to its employees in Bombay and Dhubri (Assam) and what variations have to be made in order to suit the different localities and thirdly what is the nature of the work for which the wage is to be determined.

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A fourth and a very important consideration will be whether there has been increases in the rates of wages and salaries during the past eight or nine years. At my suggestion the company has obtained a list of rates obtaining in the Ambarnath Factory (Bombay), marked Exhibit XII and it has been signed by the Technical Manager, Bombay, and I assume that it is a correct statement. This has to be compared with columns 9 and 10 of Exhibit XIII, which is a statement furnished by the company to show the actual earnings of the different categories of workers in Madras at present, i.e., in 1947. The last column of the statement shows the increase which the workers obtained in their wages between the periods 1939 and 1947. It is found that everyone of the workers got an increase. A man who was getting Rs. 2-0-9 in 1939 gets Rs. 2-6-0 per day now and in respect of the daily-rated workers the increase has been distinctly noticeable as Exhibit XIV will show. In 1943 a general increase of half an anna in the rupee was given to all the piece-rated workers. The result of the comparison of the increases to the different categories show that some persons got as much as 70 per cent increase in the wage rates while some got 16 per cent only and in the case of the daily rates it varied between 2 annas and Re. 0-14-9. The question is whether these increases are adequate.

In considering this question it is necessary to remember foremost that in this company there is no question of dearness allowance. We are now dealing with rates and salaries only without reference to the increased cost of living for which dearness allowance is paid, because the company supplies to all the employees provisions and stores required for household use at the same rates at which those commodities could be had in the market in 1939. The company naturally has to spend a lot of money in obtaining the stores at current market rates. They have, however, fixed the quota for each individual up to which only he will be permitted to buy in the stores at the concessional rates. This quota ranges from Rs. 13 to Rs. 20, vide Exhibit IV. Exhibit XIII will show that the actual earnings of all grades and classes of employees have increased from 1939 to a very substantial extent so much so that the lowest income of a piece-rated worker is Rs. 24-2-0 and he is the 'dozen packeting receiver.' Besides this man there are only five other persons who get less than Rs. 30 a month, and with regard to daily rated workers except those corresponding to the coolie classes, viz., the very unskilled, all are paid more than Rs. 30. In addition to the wages and salaries earned by the employees the company pays a cash allowance of Re. 0-1-4 per rupee. Consequently, the wages and salaries paid in this company compare very favourably with what obtains in other concerns. At this stage we may consider what are the types of workers and the nature of skill demanded of them in this factory.

The Western India Match Factory is located near Tiruvottiyur and has been in existence since 1929. A visit to it when it is

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working ought to convince any one that rationalization in this factory has gone apace rapidly with the result that there is comparatively little of what we may call skilled or technical knowledge required.

Huge blocks or stumps of felled trees are brought to the gates of the factory and they are, by means of crowbars and other means, rolled into the place where sawing is done. This place is called the 'Yard'. By means of power-driven saws these blocks are cut and the cutting was so nice to see, as if it was a piece of lump of butter being cut by a knife. The men or man at that stage has to roll this blocks into position and the saw does the rest of the work. The sundered blocks or pieces are sent to another section where by means, again, of machinery from these cut pieces layers are taken veneers. These are again slightly cut and by impressions made on them the veneers are shaped into pieces corresponding to the match boxes. The inside as well as outside are made by machines themselves. These outer and inner boxes are all thus completed by the working of the machines and the man at the spot has only to remove them when the work is finished or the veneers have to be put in position to be cut and folded. Another section is similar to the above where different layers of cut wood are piled one over another and pushed into proper position and the machine cuts them into splinters. A sieve separates useless ones from the good ones and the machine, which is again worked by power, is so constituted that it just allows the tips of splinters to touch a chemical composition which is kept in a large basin at the bottom of the machine. The splinters with the chemical composition tipped at their ends pass on again by the machine and are dried and they are produced at the other end in order to be put into boxes. The box filling department arranges these match sticks and the number to be put into each box is again regulated by a machine. It is like the tickets which are put into the shelves at the ticket collector's office in railway stations. The exact number drops into the box where they are arranged and filled boxes are sent to the banderol department where the banderols are fixed and labels are attached also by machinery. The making of the chemical composition is the one thing where manual labour is prominent. Also that department where the chemical composition has to be made for the powdering of the sides of boxes. Thus it will be seen that from the beginning it is the machine that does the work and what the man does is either to feed the machines at one stage or remove the finished product at the other end. I am definitely of opinion that there is very little skill expected of the workmen in this factory except at a few places. I consider the box-filling department to be rather of an arduous kind, and the box-filling man gets on the average Rs. 41 and there are 44 such men. In the face of what has been observed above it cannot be said that the wages here are too low for any category of workers. Prominent attention was drawn to the case of a coolie, a sweeper, whose salary is Rs. 24-6-0 (Chegappa Reddi) and it was stated

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that he invariably got much less than this. It must not be forgotten that the salaries paid or wages earned would depend on the length of attendance in the month and as long as the rates are found to be satisfactory and adequate, the fact that a particular person got low income is not due to the inadequacy of salary, but to his too frequent absenteeism.

Another factor which should be borne in mind is whether the increase that the several categories of workmen got was to a very low paid basic salary. If for instance in 1939 the salaries and rates were very low the increase of 5 or 6 annas or 20 per cent may not be an adequate increase but in column 16 of Exhibit XIII are given the piece rates for each category of worker which obtained in 1939. To further clarify this the company has produced the rates for 1939 (Exhibit I). Even in 1939 except two or three categories of workers every one got more than one rupee per day. It will also be observed that the heavy worked man, though unskilled such as the cross-cutting machineman, gets a very decent salary of more than Rs. 60 and the helper Rs. 57. The corresponding men in Bombay are paid Rs. 1-7-0 and Rs. 1-4-0 a day—much lower than what the Madras men are paid. These variations between one place and another or between one category and another category are not due to any haphazard fixation of wages. Whenever the work involves hard, manual labour, though it is unskilled, a little more is being given and in some places the same kind of work will demand a higher rate due to local conditions. Therefore, when a comparison of the rates obtaining in different categories or in different places is made it should also be remembered that all types of categories in a factory such as this are or may be said to be unskilled or at the most semi-skilled. Therefore, it is futile to contend that a man who is paid Rs. 1-8-0 in a certain place must be paid Rs. 1-8-0 in another place simply because he does the same work. If the variation, however, is appreciable, then explanation has to be demanded. In the present case a comparison of Exhibit XIII with Exhibit XII shows the Madras workers are in an advantageous position except in Rims Veneer Feeding section and Rims Veneer Chopping. The latter's rate is about Rs. 1-1-0 whereas it is Rs. 2-4-0 in Bombay. But the dimensions of the layer differ. On a very careful comparison of the rates in the different departments I am unable to say that there is any inadequacy of the rates prevailing in Madras. I would recommend that the rates with regard to the Rims Veneer Feeding machines and Rims Veneer Chopping may be revised slightly to bring them up to the Bombay standard.

Another category about which I would leave a suggestion is the banderol, cutting, powder and filling where the rate now obtaining in Madras is $1\frac{1}{2}$ pies, or 1.29 pies and 1.38 pies; it may be raised to $1\frac{1}{2}$ pies, the rate which is in vogue in Bombay. These are to be taken as suggestions but not as obligatory. Mr. Engstrom, the Chief Engineer, who knows these matters will set right these slight anomalies. I would also suggest to him if he could increase the number of men in the box filling machines. Though it may also be a mechanical kind of work a certain amount of risk of burn exists in this box-filling department but the risk cannot be avoided by

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giving more money. It is perhaps possible to reduce the risk by employing more men. I would leave it to Mr. Engstrom to pay attention to these matters.

The result of the foregoing considerations is that the minimum which an unskilled man in this company gets is Rs. 24-12-0 and he also gets an attendance bonus and a cash allowance at As. 1-4 per rupee. There are also other concessions such as fuel and stores to which I have already referred. These wages cannot, under any circumstances, be said to be too low or inadequate.

In their statement the company has devoted one column to show the possible earning of each workman if he was doing his best. This was refuted by the other side and the company has produced Exhibits V, VI and VII. They show the actual earnings of three men in the Peeling department in the month of July 1947. The production is approximately near to what the company shows as a possibility and the earnings have been Rs. 48, 49 and 52. Given full attention to the work, a workman can earn much more than the minimum which is fixed for 26 days. Quick work at the machine and producing more will get him more money. This, it is the business of the Union to impress upon all the workmen. It is not that the rate is too low but that the work is not quick and efficient that makes the man get what he calls a lower income.

In the course of discussion it was found that a few matters required clarification. An impression was created that a number of people have been kept temporary for a long period of time with the consequence that they got no benefits, either of dearness allowance or stores concessions or provident fund. The management has filed certain statements showing the number of men whom they confirmed in 1945, 1946 and 1947, and above all they have sent me the notices which they have put up giving effect to certain changes from 9th December 1947. Those who have put in a continuous service of one year will be confirmed and they will no longer be treated as casual labour without any privileges. The persons who were treated as casual labour and were getting Rs. 1-11-3 will hereafter get Rs. 2-3-0 including dearness allowance. Rs. 2 per day for an unskilled labourer is exceedingly reasonable.

I was very much gratified to find this immediate response on the part of the management to a few observations of mine in the course of the arguments.

3 (a) and 3 (b).—It is not quite correct to say that the starting salary of a fitter is Re. 1-1-0. At page 2 of Exhibit XIV the names and incomes of all the fitters are noted. They are all getting more than Rs. 40 a month except six people who were appointed quite recently. No one can demand that from the date of appointment as a fitter he should be paid Re. 1-4-0 or more. When he is a learner, during that period he cannot be expected to be paid the wage of a permanent fitter. Also the kind of work in which he is employed as a fitter requires consideration. One apprentice fitter is getting Re. 1-7-0 but another apprentice fitter is getting

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only As. 12-0. Both are new entrants. With regard to permanent fitters who have put in more than two years of service, I do not find that any one gets less than Re. 1-4-0.

With regard to yard workers I have already said that they are working in the open, pushing or removing the blocks of wood. None of them gets less than As. 14-0 a day and they also get As. 1-4 in the rupee extra. What they are now getting seems quite adequate.

Issue No. 4.—What shall be the reasonable period of leave which should be granted (i) as ordinary privilege leave (it is now 15 days), (ii) as sick leave with pay and (iii) on account of festivals. (It is now 13 days without pay.)

N.B.—There can be no accumulation of sick leave.

The granting of leave by this company is of one kind only. Leave for 15 days in the year is given, and I am asked to interpret this as 10 days privilege leave and 5 days for holidays. For this reliance is placed on their letter to the Commissioner of Labour, dated 23rd July 1945 (Exhibit X). Mr. Sarma for the Union states that he never agreed to have five days leave for festivals. Whatever that be, it is now obligatory on the part of every employer of this type to give 10 days continuous leave and as it is obvious that those ten days should be given for the purpose of recuperation of health there should be a few more days available to the worker. Recently the Madras Legislature considered 12 days privilege leave, 12 days festival holidays with pay and 12 days sick leave would be reasonable for one class of employees. In the installation of the oil companies the workers get 17 days privilege leave and a fairly long period of sick leave with pay and half pay and seven days festival holidays with pay. I direct that the workers in the *Wimco* shall be given 17 days privilege leave with pay, seven days sick leave with pay and with regard to festival holidays the company states that at page 13 of their written statement that they close the factory for 13 days in a year on account of festivals, but without pay, and they elaborate the statement by saying that when the factory is closed for festivals Sunday is substituted and double wages are given and so on. It is time we bring about some uniformity in these matters. With regard to festivals the direction should be that seven festival holidays with pay shall be given, and what those seven festivals are shall be determined by the workers and the management after due consultation.

Issue No. 5.—Whether the value of the provisions supplied by the stores should be raised from Rs. 14 to Rs. 20 for all workers.

Out of 1,220 workers, 872 are permitted to buy stores at concession rates up to a maximum of Rs. 14. The others allowed to purchase upto Rs. 15 and Rs. 16. The commodities supplied to them are mentioned in Exhibit XVI and the quantities which each person can buy are limited. Much time was spent in establishing that the value of the stores would be 4 or 5 times these amounts if purchased in the open market today. That however, in my opinion is beside the point. The workers are getting the provisions

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required at a favourable rate and what they demand is that this limit should be increased to Rs. 20 for all workers. Some employees are permitted to buy even up to Rs. 30 but 1,220 men cannot exceed Rs. 20 limit. The management states that even as matters are, the workers buy the provisions at concessional rates and sell them at the market rates and thereby are also making money. I am unable to take this as a proved fact because if the worker who gets Rs. 14 worth of provisions should sell a part of them to make a profit, he will have to go without that item which he has sold or should buy it at a higher price in the market. The ways of the black market are very mysterious and even if there is truth in what the management has said it is no guidance for me in deciding any matter in issue. The workers who have appeared before me say that what they are able to buy in the stores is not enough and, therefore, they have to go to the market for the extra things required. This is to make out a case for increase in the quota for all workers up to Rs. 20. If that statement is true, it cannot be that they are selling what they buy from the stores for a higher price keeping themselves in needy circumstances. Mr. S. Venkoba Rao, the Accountant in the Factory, explained how even when a particular article is not available in the stores, it is got from market and where there is a limited stock such as coffee in the last month, the quantity made available to each worker is proportionately reduced. The company has gone into each worker's case separately and fixed a quota for him. Generally, the quota is half the salary. Mr. G. D. Paul, Wages Clerk for the last 12 years, said his salary was Rs. 50 in 1939 and he gets now Rs. 90 and his stores allowance is Rs. 26, and he says that to-day he is unable to save any money at all, not even Rs. 10, though he gets Rs. 90, whereas in 1939, he was able to save Rs. 10 a month when he was getting only Rs. 50. The number of members in his family has increased. So it may be taken to be the case with respect to all workers. So far as provisions for domestic consumption, tabulated in Exhibit XVI, are concerned, I find that the manner in which the management has fixed the quota for each worker is satisfactory and requires no change.

23. If you take the case of a worker who is getting Rs. 26, he spends Rs. 13 for provisions which we may take it for granted will be enough for the family consumption; there is still Rs. 13 plus As. 1-4 per rupee on the Rs. 26. The question is whether what is left in cash is an adequate sum of money to meet his other demands. It is well known that the chief item of expenditure is cloth. Transport has increased by 50 per cent and house rent has increased enormously. The index with respect to cloth is now in the neighbourhood of 285. Cloth may be scarce and yet cloth is required by everybody. If the 5 yards or any quantity that may be the rationed quantity is insufficient one will be obliged to go into the black market even, to clothe oneself and his family. Assuming that a family consists of on the average 4 members, the minimum that one would require for clothing these four would be nothing less than Rs. 84, which would work out at Rs. 7 per month,

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and if this is taken away from the Rs. 13 there is hardly left anything for other things not included in Exhibit XVI. A man who was getting Rs. 26 in 1939 must have been spending the whole of it for his maintenance and if to-day Rs. 13 gets the things which he was then getting for food, the remaining Rs. 13 will also go away for his necessary purposes as he was doing in 1939, but he requires more because the Rs. 13 which is left to him after buying the stores can hardly be sufficient to get the things which he has to get other than those mentioned in Exhibit XVI. Medicine, barber, wash and occasional theatre, transport besides cloth, which I have already mentioned. And they have all gone up in price and, therefore, the Rs. 13 left as cash balance would hardly be enough for him and the cash allowance of As. 1-4 in the rupee is not an adequate compensation to neutralise or even compensate for the rise in prices of things other than those mentioned in Exhibit XVI. I, therefore, recommend that the As. 1-4 should be raised to As. 2-0 in the rupee with effect from 1st January 1948.

24. On behalf of the Management a repeated request was made to permit them to drop the stores concession and that they would give a cash dearness allowance which is being paid in Bombay at Rs. 42 a month. The workers did not agree to this suggestion and I cannot say that they should be compelled to take cash in substitution of the existing arrangement of concessional stores. It is a matter which the company has to propose to the Union and the Labour Officer and after discussion if they agree they may substitute it by dearness allowance in money. I am not, however, competent to deal with this question in the Enquiry. All I can say is circumstances justify an increase in the rate of cash dearness allowance from As. 1-4 to As. 2-0. In the case of those who have been entertained after war, the stores concession is not available to them and there is quite a number of men who have been recruited recently and who have to depend upon the dearness allowance only. Whatever advantages may accrue by the stores concessions are not available to the new entrants. Therefore, also the increase of dearness allowance from As. 1-4 to As. 2-0 is justifiable.

Issue No. 6.—Whether dress should be supplied to all the workers (now only workers in certain sections are given).

A certain number of workers are supplied by the company with dress in conformity with the Madras Factory Rules. Dress is demanded by the remaining workers. I can see very little ground for that. Having inspected the factory I saw the men at the machines. Except in a very few places, there is not much chance of their dress getting soiled on account of their being near the machines. No case has been made out for asking the company to supply dress to all the workers.

Issue No. 7.—Whether the Union should be consulted when a person is recruited for service in the factory and whether a committee as suggested by the Union should be constituted for the purpose of recruitment.

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I am asked to direct the company to consult the Union before a man is recruited for service in the factory. The general policy of labour exchange is a matter for the Government to decide and in the present state of Trade Unionism in the country the factory owner may not be able to get the right type of man through existing Trade Unions. I am not referring to this particular company or to a particular trade union. If trade unionism gets sufficient strength and has exerted a useful influence generally on labour and industry not only will the company be prepared to consult the Union but will only be too glad to consult the union in order to get efficient and capable recruits. At present, however, the trade union cannot be depended upon for the purpose of recruitment. This issue is found in the negative.

Issue No. 8.—Whether the cash dearness allowance now being granted at As. 1-4 per rupee should be raised to 2 annas—Vide Finding on Issue No. 5.

Issue No. 9.—Whether any provision should be made for—

- (1) allowance for house rent;
- (2) educational facilities; and
- (3) medical aid.

beyond what is now obtaining in the factory.

Education.—This factory has an elementary school where 80 pupils are being taught. The problem of education of the children of the working classes is an important problem which it is the duty of the state to tackle than for a tribunal to compel the employer to do. I do not think I can make any recommendation on this subject. It is of course desirable that Government should make it obligatory on every management which employs more than 1,000 workmen to have a school of a High School standard to cater to the educational needs of the families of the workers, but that desideratum seems a long way off.

Medical aid.—With regard to medical aid there is a dispensary attached to the factory which I cannot say is of a very high order. There is a medical officer and such medicines as are constantly needed are available. The dispensary itself is in a comparatively small room and the medical officer there told me that even the families of the workmen who go there for treatment are attended to. The dispensary requires to be enlarged and there should be more facilities for those who go there for medical treatment. In this connection, Mr. Sarma, addressed arguments that the medical aid given to the persons who are injured is of a very flimsy character, that there is not even an ambulance and that there are frequent accidents and so on. The reply was that whenever there is any accident requiring treatment in a hospital, the injured man is taken to the Rayapuram Hospital which is four miles away in a car that is always available. They have filed a list of accident cases sent to the hospital from 1st January 1947 to 30th November 1947 (Exhibit XVII). The number of accident cases is 38 and number of cases of burns is not small. There is no doubt that the

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management is taking as much care with regard to the treatment of the injured workmen as is possible, but the number of cases being as much as 38 in eleven months and the nature of the business being concerned with things like phosphorous and sulphur, I am of opinion that the immediate medical aid available at the factory is inadequate. There is a labour office attached to the factory and as I said in the course of the arguments the labour office does not seem to be of any help to the workers. I should expect the labour welfare office to take more interest to see that better medical aid is provided. I recommend that immediate steps should be taken to expand the dispensary or build a new one where there are some beds provided for the treatment of persons injured, before they are removed to the hospital. As long as the officers of the company lend their cars to transport the injured men to hospital the absence of an ambulance is not of much consequence.

Housing.—One of the biggest problems of the day is house accommodation. There are a few houses constructed by the management but the number is so small and the houses are so very antiquated in their pattern that almost all the 1,220 workmen are going about finding a suitable accommodation for themselves. And there is no village close to the factory. Thiruvottiyur is not so near probably two miles away from the factory—and even Thiruvottiyur is said to be densely populated. The few houses attached to the factory are being let out at Rs. 3 a month. There is no denying the fact that the present notion is that it is the duty of the employer to provide housing accommodation to the employees. The time which an employee takes to go to the factory and to return home after working for the period of 8 hours or 8½ hours, is unconscionably long for the betterment of the family life of the worker. The employers in most cases have found the reasonableness to provide housing accommodation. By providing a few houses as they have done the Western India Match Company have acknowledged impliedly the desirability of providing houses to the workers. They have not done so except for a very small number. The result is that those who are not provided with houses are obliged to pay too much of a house rent. In many cases where there is no housing accommodation a house rent allowance is being given. I have therefore decided to direct that the management shall pay a house rent allowance of Rs. 5 to those whose basic salary is less than Rs. 75. Those who pay Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 or less shall be paid the actual amount of rent.

Issue No. 10.—Whether the bonus of one-fifth of the total earnings for 1946 which has been paid is inadequate and should be raised to six months' pay.

For 1946, a dividend at 12 per cent was declared and the bonus has been paid which works out to nearly 2½ months' wages. In 1945 when also 12 per cent was the dividend declared, two months' earnings were given as bonus in addition to the victory bonus. On the principle that bonus should be linked to the dividend, 20 per cent of the earnings of the workers paid as bonus should be

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deemed to be quite fair. Exhibits XI and XI (a) afford a comparative study of the production in the years 1944, 1945 and 1946 as well as the profits realized by the Madras branch of the company. No separate balance sheet is prepared for the Madras branch. The company has given the approximate figure under profits realized by the Madras Branch. A comparison of the figures also shows that 20 per cent bonus declared for 1946 is fair and reasonable.

Issue No. 11.—Whether the piece rate system should be abolished. This is not the time when piece rate system should be abolished. Apart from the principle that a piece rate is a good estimate and will indicate the efficiency of the worker the present piece rate system has been in existence from 1929 and is yet in vogue in the company's other branches at Ambarnath and Dhubri (Assam). The existing system will continue.

Issue No. 12.—Whether the management should pay to the workers railway fare for 600 miles and give other facilities for utilization of leave?

Two companies, the Burmah Shell and the Imperial Chemical Industries give railway fare to some of their workers on certain conditions, when they proceed on leave. What these two companies give is a special concession which cannot be made compulsory on other companies. The issue is found in the negative.

Issue No. 13.—Whether the contribution for provident fund should be on the total earnings or on the basic salary?

Provident fund contribution is calculated on the basic salary earned in the month. In this dearness allowance is not included. If dearness allowance is to be included in the contribution to provident fund, the demand for dearness allowance need not be given. The object with which dearness allowance is given is to compensate the worker for increased cost of living and not to make increased savings. It is obvious that there is no reason at all in this demand.

Issue No. 14.—Whether the management should supply mid-day meals to the workers?

The workers are paid an adequate salary and there are tiffin sheds constructed where they take their midday meals and the sheds are roomy and large in size. A midday meal is no small expenditure to a company to undertake. If the workers are united they can have a co-operative restaurant or hotel for which the company may be asked to give some accommodation but it is too much to ask the management to give midday meal to workers. I am not aware of any company who does this.

Issue No. 15.—Whether the factory premises are not in good condition and remodelling of the same should be made immediately.

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Along with Mr. C. G. Reddi, Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories, I visited the factory and I have not found any reason to think that the premises are not in good condition. There are different sections and in each section there is plenty of space. There is no room for complaint that a remodelling is required.

*Dated at Madras, this
3rd day of January 1948. }*

*(Signed)
Industrial Tribunal.*

P.S.—After I completed the above award the W.I.M.Co. has sent me a list of wages and salaries revised by them, to take effect from 27th December 1947. This, they state in their letter, was necessitated owing to the cutting down of petrol rations and consequent shortage of wood. Instead of full size boxes, medium size is to be produced but the rate as for full size is being maintained for medium size, production being as per standard fixed in column 6 of the statement. The change, therefore, it is claimed, does not offend the provisions of section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act as the workers' earnings are not adversely affected.

*(Signed)
Industrial Tribunal.*

